KING OF HELL™

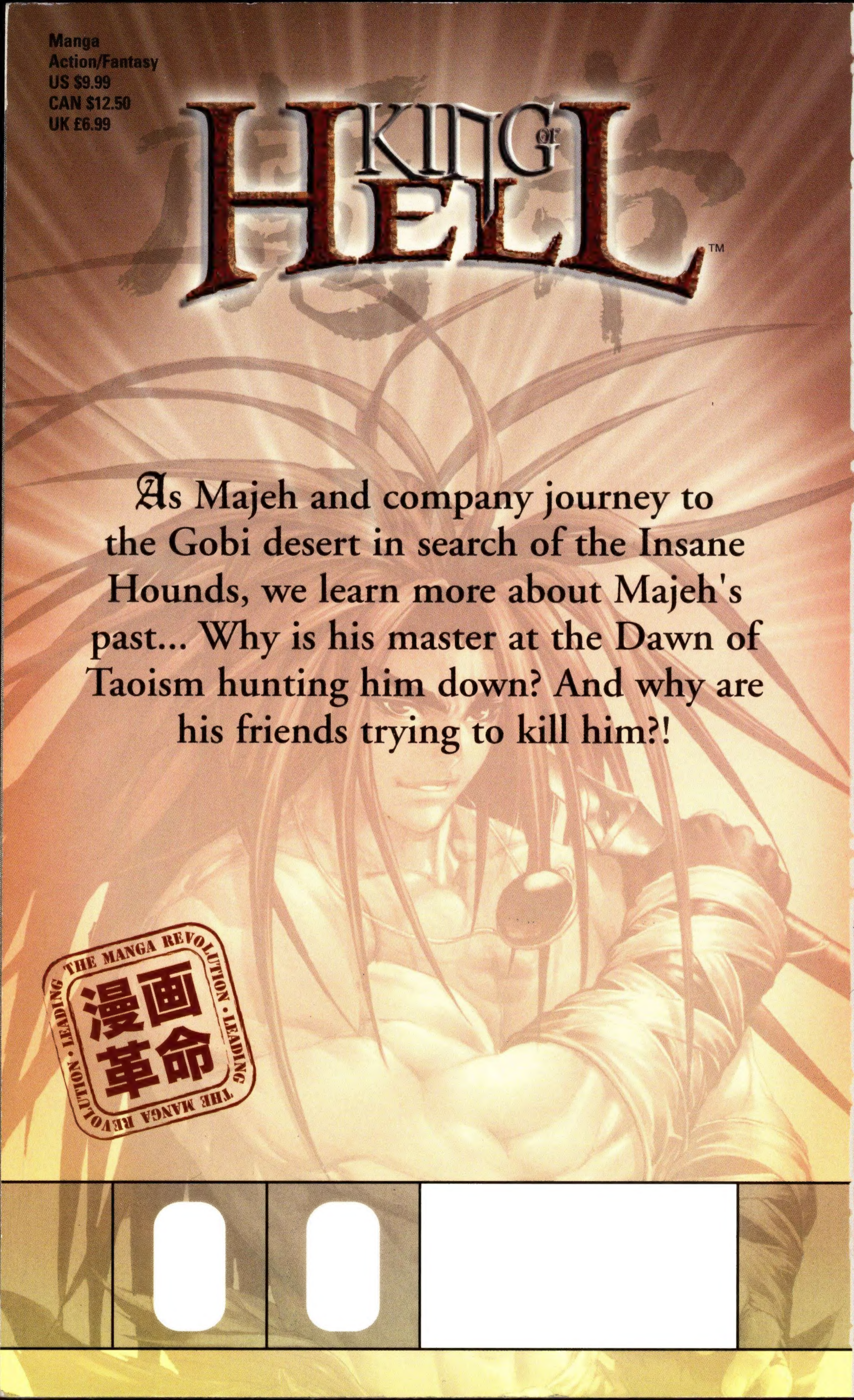
From the artist of Warcraft: The Sunwell Trilogy

17

RA IN-SOO • JAE-HWAN KIM

English Adaptation By R. A. Jones

TOKYOPOP®



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Action/Fantasy
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KING of HELL™

As Majeh and company journey to the Gobi desert in search of the Insane Hounds, we learn more about Majeh's past... Why is his master at the Dawn of Taoism hunting him down? And why are his friends trying to kill him?!

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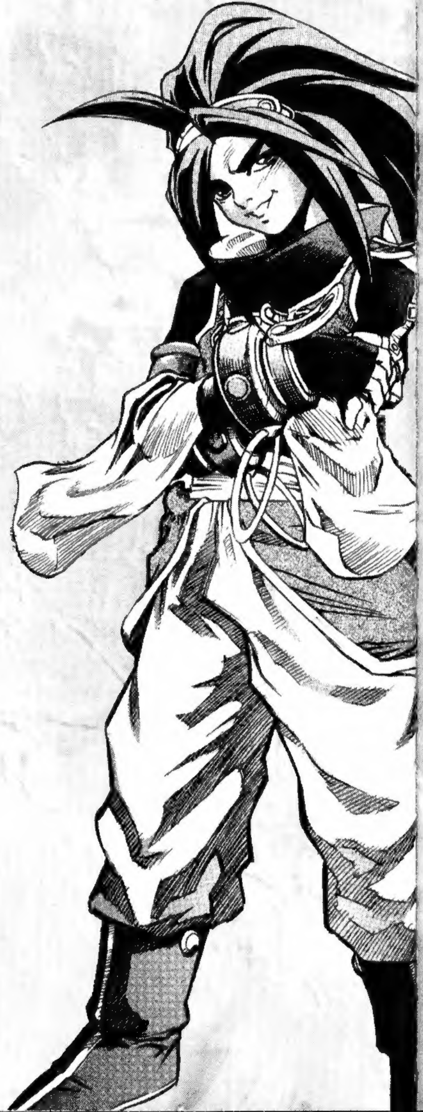
KING OF HELL™

WHO THE HELL...?

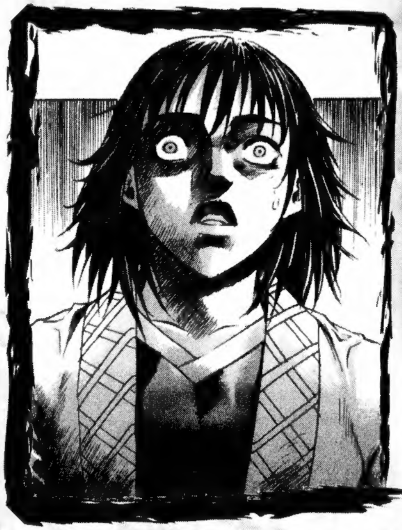


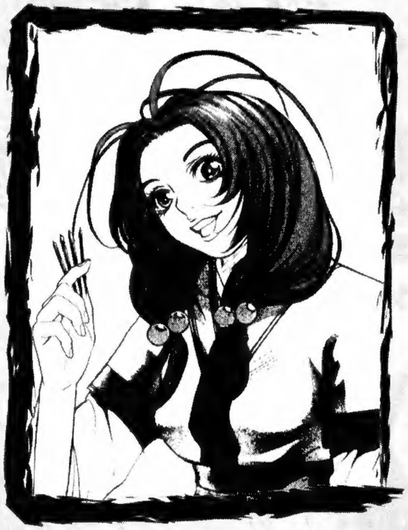
MAJEH:

When he was alive, Majeh was an extremely powerful and much-feared warrior. In death, Majeh was recruited to be a collector of souls for the King of Hell. Recently, Majeh was returned to his human form in order to destroy the escaped evil spirits for the King of Hell.

CHUNG POONG NAMGOONG:

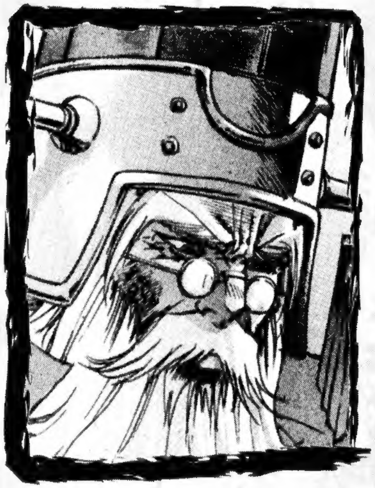
Once branded as a coward, Chung Poong left his once-respected family hoping to prove himself at the Martial Arts Tournament in Nakyang. Broke and desperate, Chung Poong tried to rob Majeh. In a very rare moment of pity, Majeh allowed Chung Poong to live...and to tag along with him. Chung Poong was recently forced to fight—and kill—his older brother, who had been kidnapped and turned into a zombie.





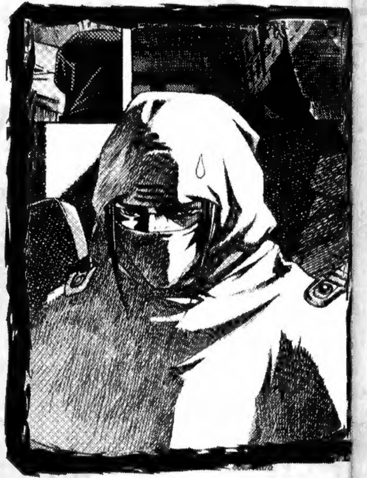
DOHWA BAIK:

A vivacious vixen who often dispatches enemies with poisoned needles. Dohwa joined Majeh and Chung Poong after repeatedly humiliating the hapless trio known as the Insane Hounds. Recently, she journeyed home to retrieve a powerful, but evil, whip called the Mapyun. It's a mighty weapon that few can wield without the Mapyun's dark power overtaking them, but Dohwa seems to have mastered it, which makes her a formidable fighter.



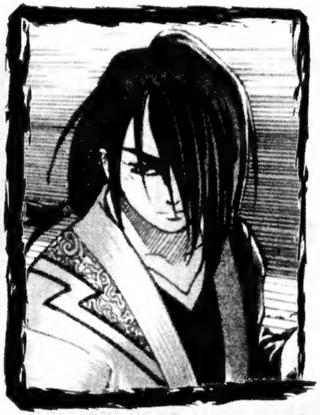
KING OF HELL:

You were expecting horns and a pitchfork? This benevolent, otherworldly ruler reigns over the souls of the dead like a shepherd tending his flock.



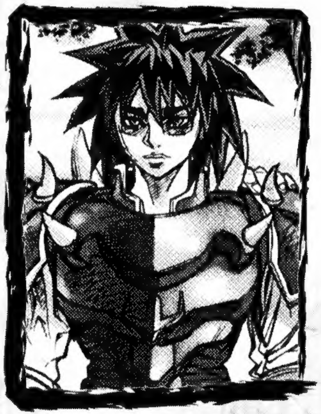
SAMHUK:

Originally sent by the King of Hell to spy on the unpredictable Majeh, Samhuk was quickly discovered and now—much to his dismay—acts as the warrior's ghostly manservant.



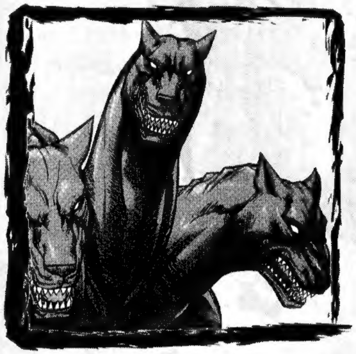
YOUNG:

A 15-year-old sword-master possessing incredible speed, he is affiliated with Mooyoung Moon--a clan of assassins 500 strong. After seeing Majeh defeat the demon-possessed master at the martial arts tournament, Young admitted he has no interest in fighting Majeh. Not yet, at any rate.



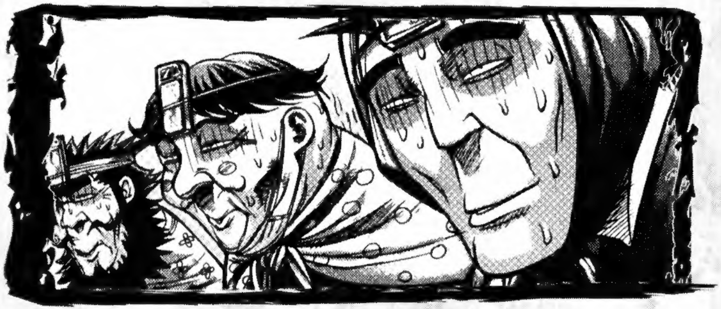
CRAZY DOG

A young warrior skilled at fighting with a club, Majeh met and fought Crazy Dog in the Martial Arts Tournament at Nakyang, where the young warrior lost his life. He was later reanimated by the villainous Dong Sa and now goes through life with the intelligence and mannerisms of a young child.



CERBERUS

The three-headed dog that guards the entrance to the Next World. Cerberus was commanded to join Majeh and his party (much to his reluctance) by the King of Hell. With his powerful attacks and knowledge of demons and the underworld, Cerberus is a mighty ally. His attitude, on the other hand, leaves something to be desired...



THE INSANE HOUNDS

A trio of dim-witted "masters" who always seem to wind up in the thick of it. The Insane Hounds frequently seem to butt heads with Dohwa, who has defeated them on numerous occasions. They were recently granted near indestructibility after they bathed in a magical pool. (And one of them peed in it.)

What The Hell...?

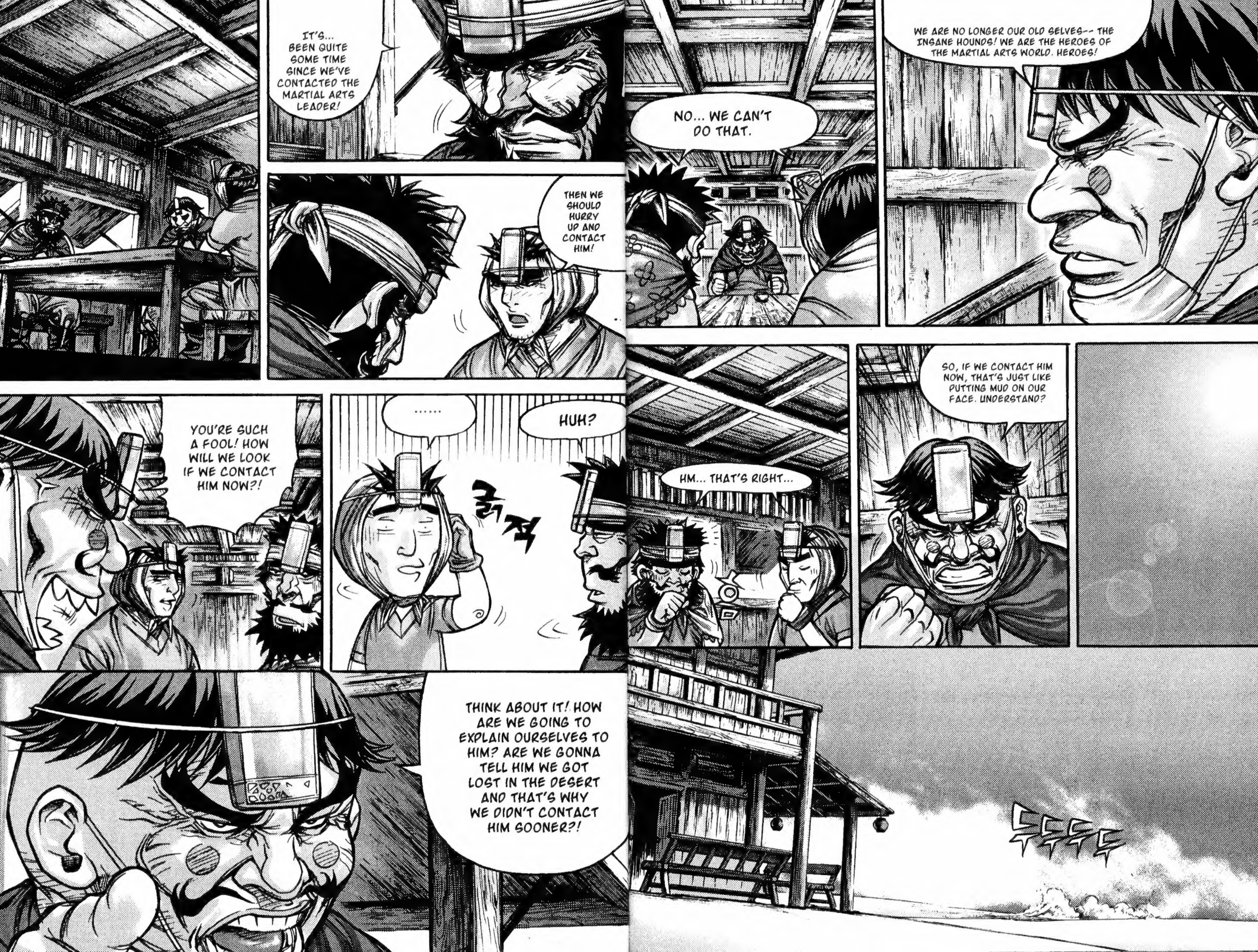
Hell's worst inmates have escaped and fled to Earth. Seeking recently deceased bodies to host their bitter souls, these malevolent master fighters are part of an evil scheme that could have dire consequences for both This World and the Next World. It is believed that the escaped fiends are hunting for bodies of martial arts experts, as only bodies trained in martial arts would be capable of properly employing their incredible skills.

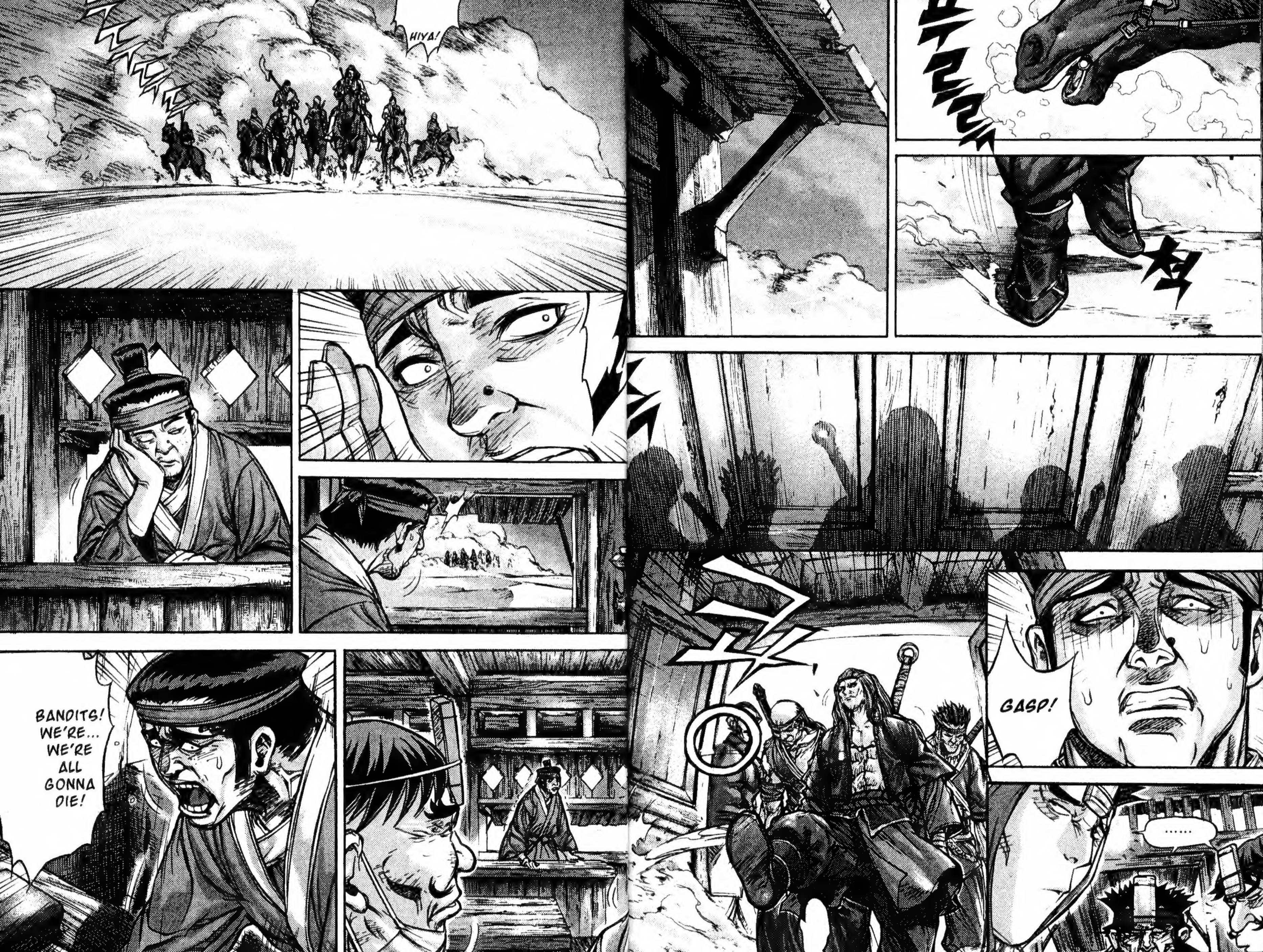
To make matters even more difficult, the otherworldly energy emitted by the fugitives will dissipate within one month's time...after which, they will be indistinguishable from normal humans and undetectable to those from the Next World. The King of Hell has assigned Majeh to hunt down Hell's Most Wanted and return them to the Next World...but Majeh doesn't always do exactly what he's told.

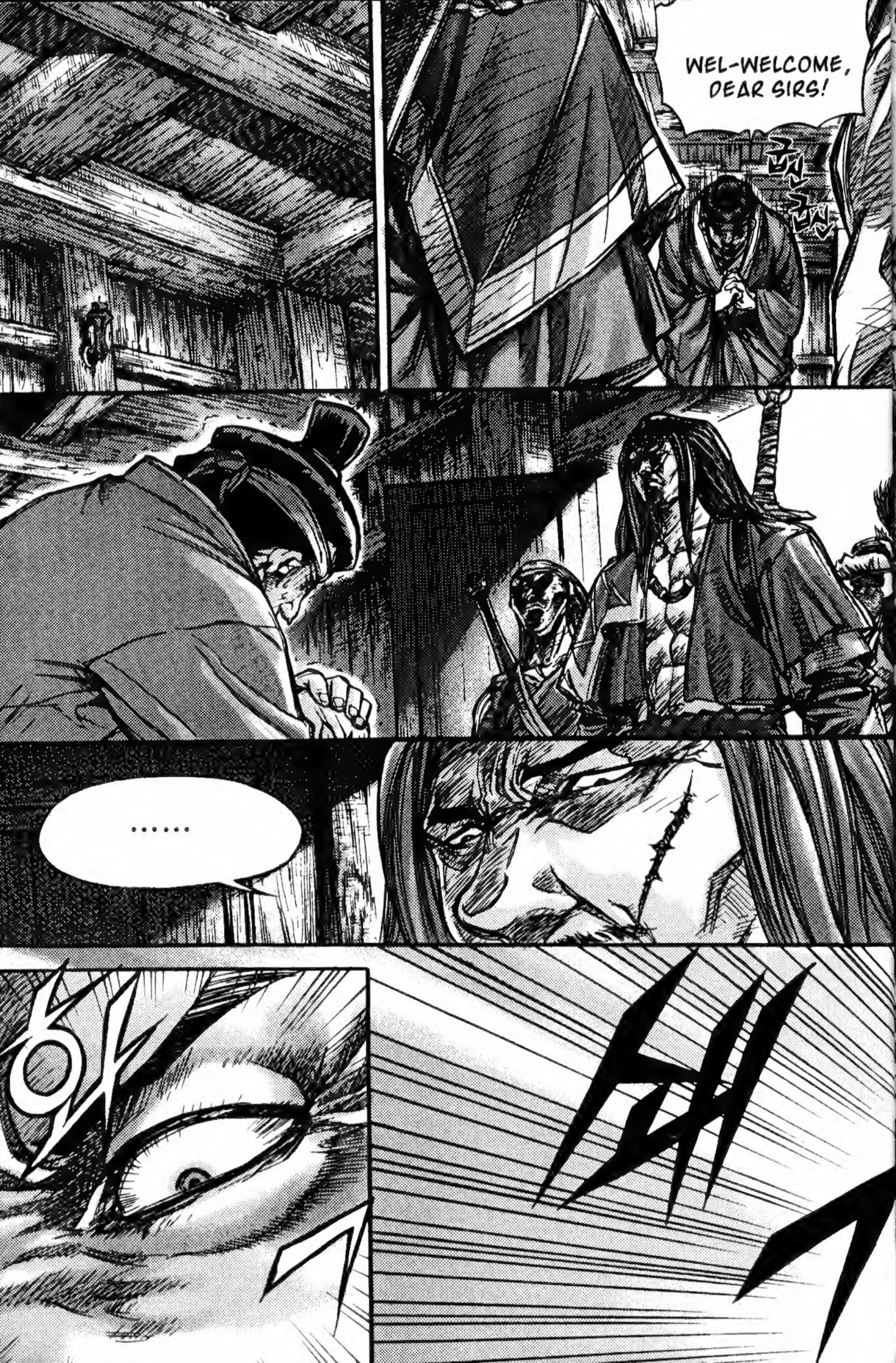
Majeh was a master swordsman in life, and in death, he serves as an envoy for the King of Hell, escorting souls of the dead to the Next World. Majeh caught Samhuk--a servant for the King of Hell--spying on him and, after making the appropriate threats, now uses Samhuk as his own servant, as well.

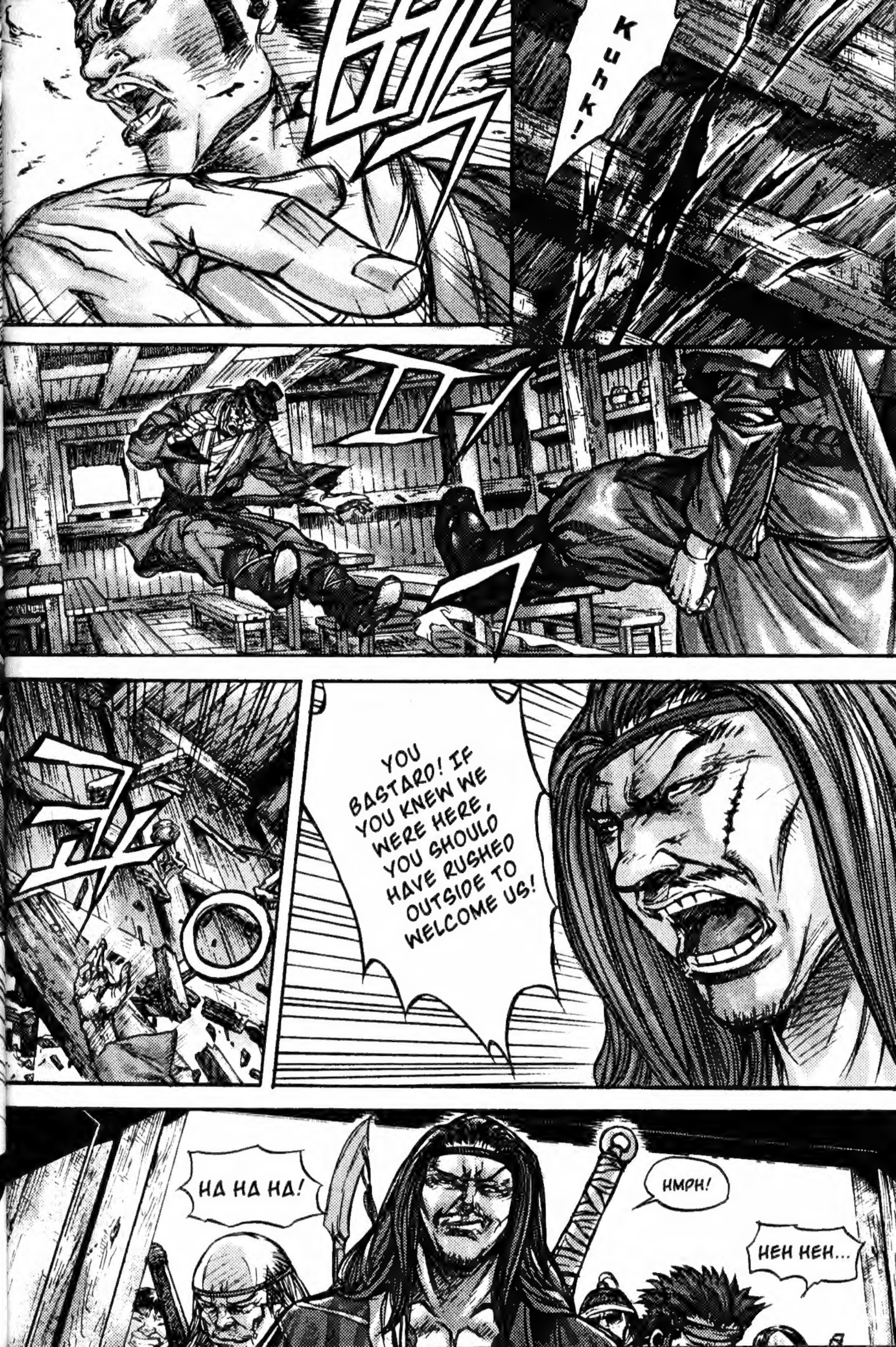
The King of Hell has reunited Majeh's spirit with his physical body, which was perfectly preserved for 300 years. Powerful as he is, however, Majeh can't turn back time, and his thirty-day deadline is fast approaching. Already, the energy that allows him to track the fugitives is growing thin and hard to detect. So, to assist him, the King of Hell has provided Majeh with a powerful new ally: Cerberus, the three-headed dog that guards the entrance to the Next World. With his highly refined sense of smell, Cerberus could be of great assistance to Majeh, but that doesn't mean the dog was eager to tag along with him. Yet, join him he did (after some firm prodding from the King of Hell), and now Cerberus accompanies Majeh on his journey.

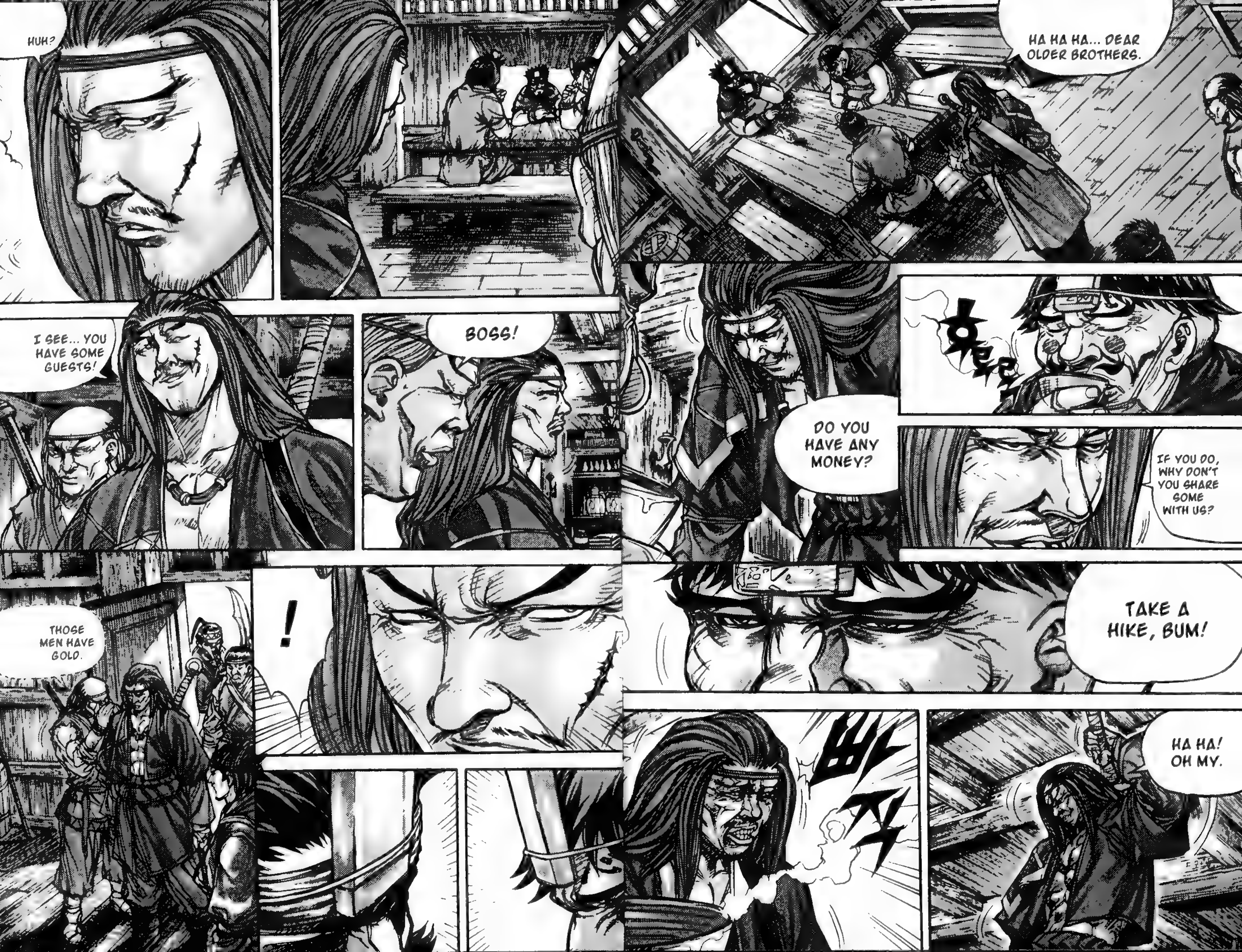
Along with the young, wannabe-warrior called Chung Poong Namgoong, a beautiful femme fatale named Dohwa Baik and a sword-wielding assassin named Young, Majeh and Cerberus were summoned by the martial arts master and leader of the Moorim, Mo Young. The Moorim recently sent out the well-meaning, if short-of-intellect, trio of fighters known as the Insane Hounds to locate the sinister Sa Gok organization. However, after months on the road and no word from the Hounds, it became clear that they might be in need of some rescue, and who better than our band of heroes to do it? Joining them for this mission is a friend from the past: the young and powerful martial artist known as Crazy Dog. Unfortunately, dark magic in Crazy Dog's past has rendered him mentally unstable, and now he walks and talks with the intellect of a child.

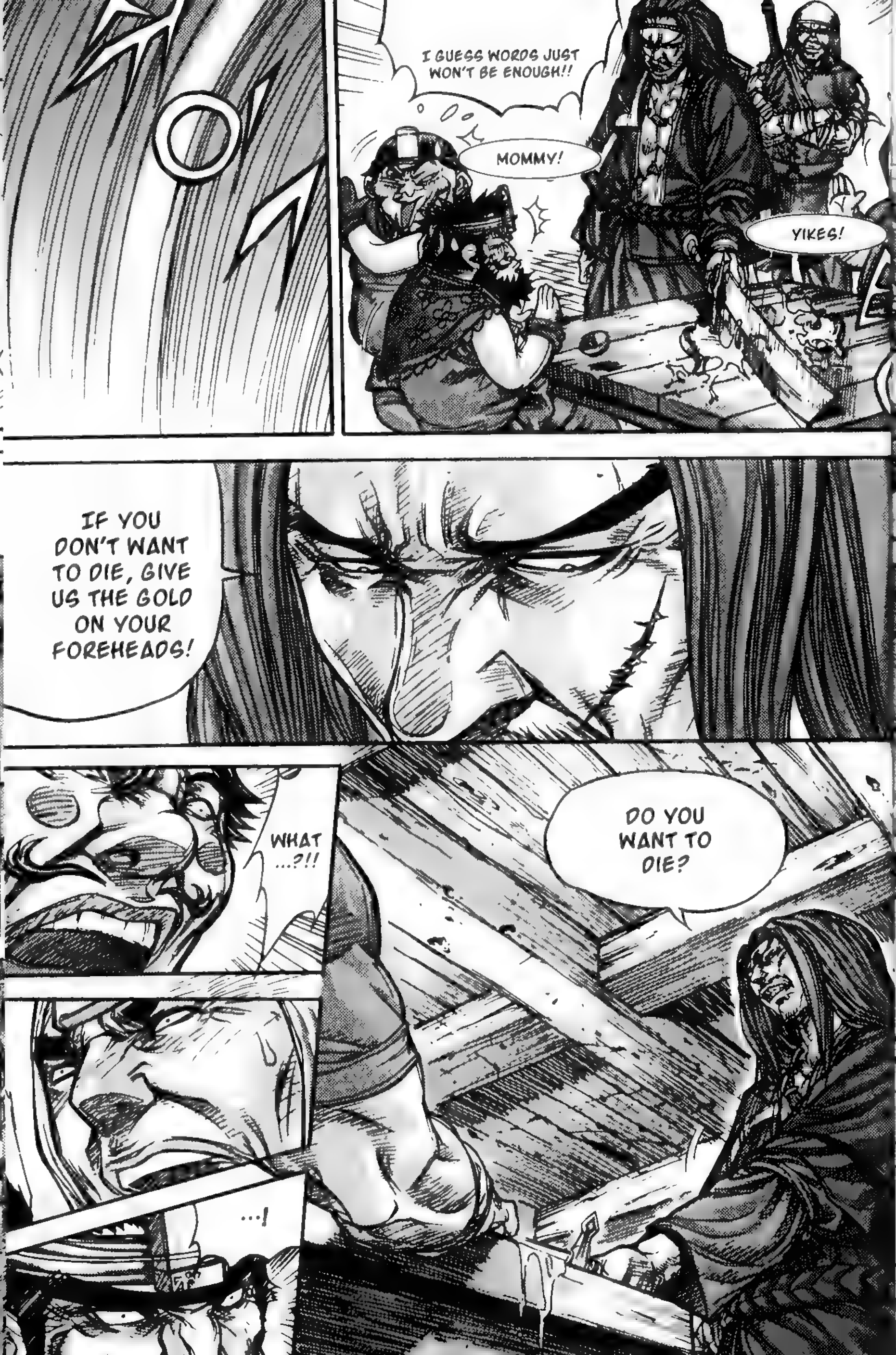

IT'S... BEEN QUITE SOME TIME SINCE WE'VE CONTACTED THE MARTIAL ARTS LEADER!
THEN WE SHOULD HURRY UP AND CONTACT HIM!
YOU'RE SUCH A FOOL! HOW WILL WE LOOK IF WE CONTACT HIM NOW?!
......
HUH?
긁적
THINK ABOUT IT! HOW ARE WE GOING TO EXPLAIN OURSELVES TO HIM? ARE WE GONNA TELL HIM WE GOT LOST IN THE DESERT AND THAT'S WHY WE DIDN'T CONTACT HIM SOONER?!
NO... WE CAN'T DO THAT.
WE ARE NO LONGER OUR OLD SELVES-- THE INSANE HOUNDS! WE ARE THE HEROES OF THE MARTIAL ARTS WORLD. HEROES!
HM... THAT'S RIGHT...
SO, IF WE CONTACT HIM NOW, THAT'S JUST LIKE PUTTING MUD ON OUR FACE. UNDERSTAND?
두두두두

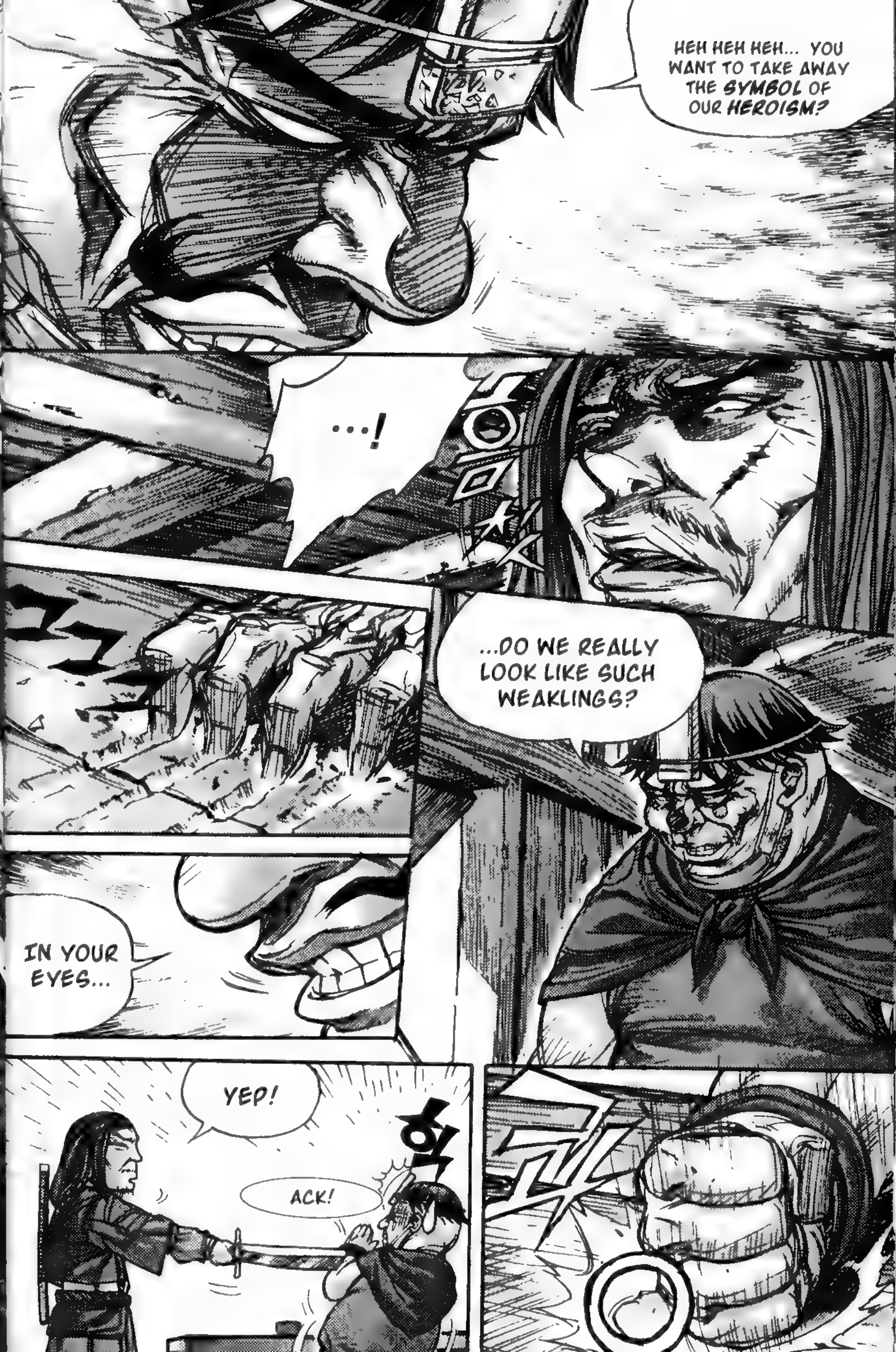

HIYA!
BANDITS! WE'RE... WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!
척
GASP!
......

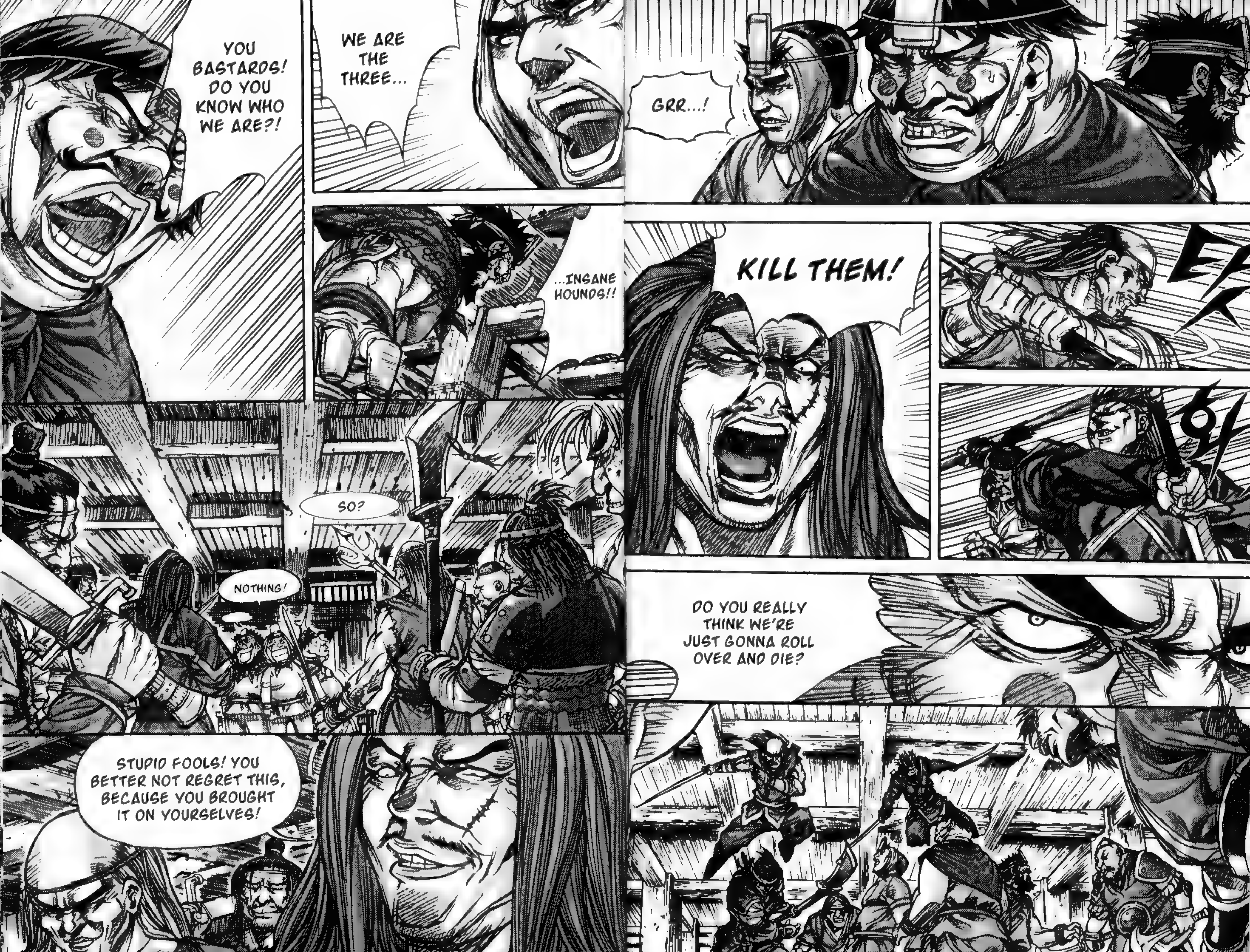

WEL-WELCOME, DEAR SIRS!
굽실 굽실
......

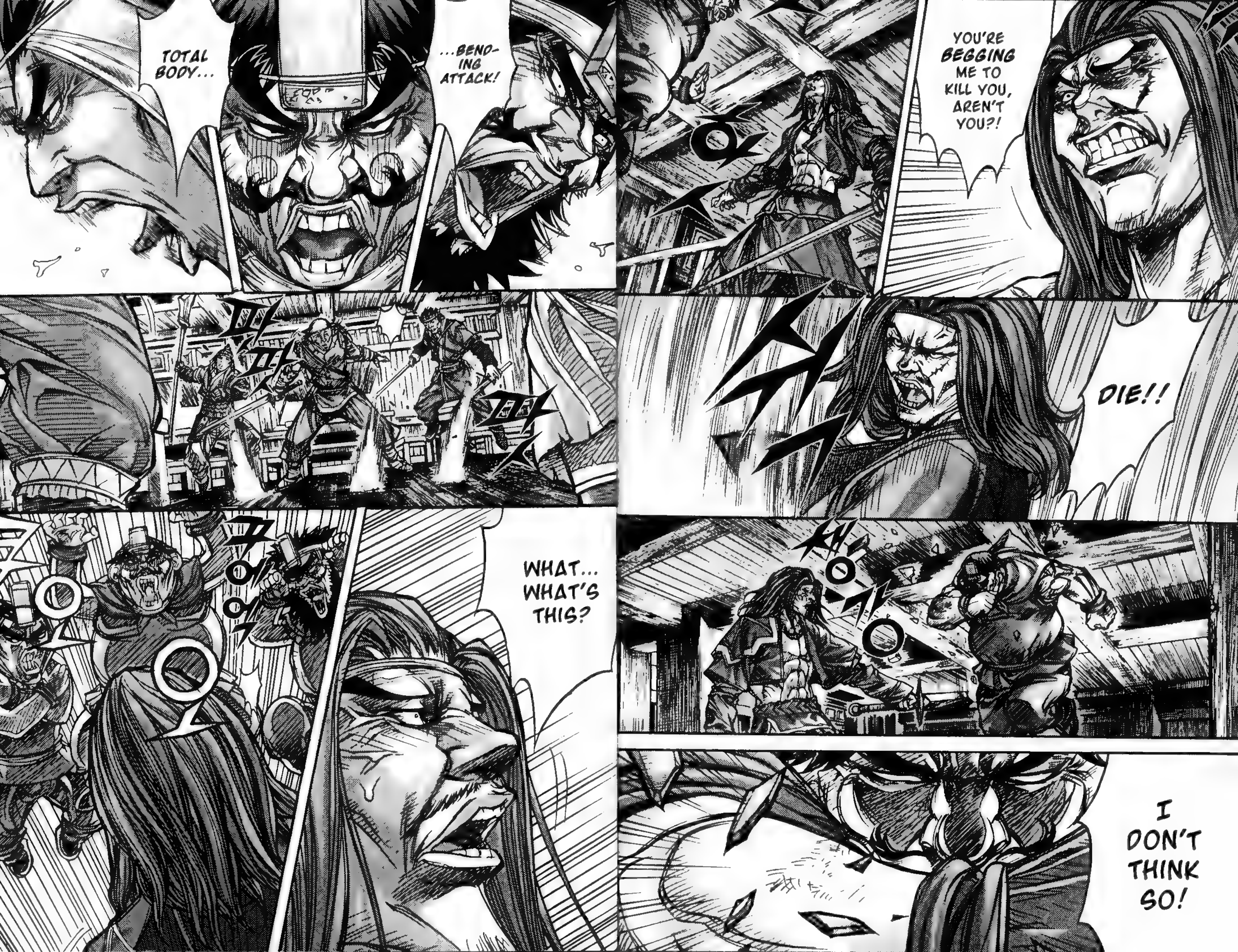

Kuhk!
YOU BASTARD! IF YOU KNEW WE WERE HERE, YOU SHOULD HAVE RUSHED OUTSIDE TO WELCOME US!
HA HA HA!
HMPH!
HEH HEH...

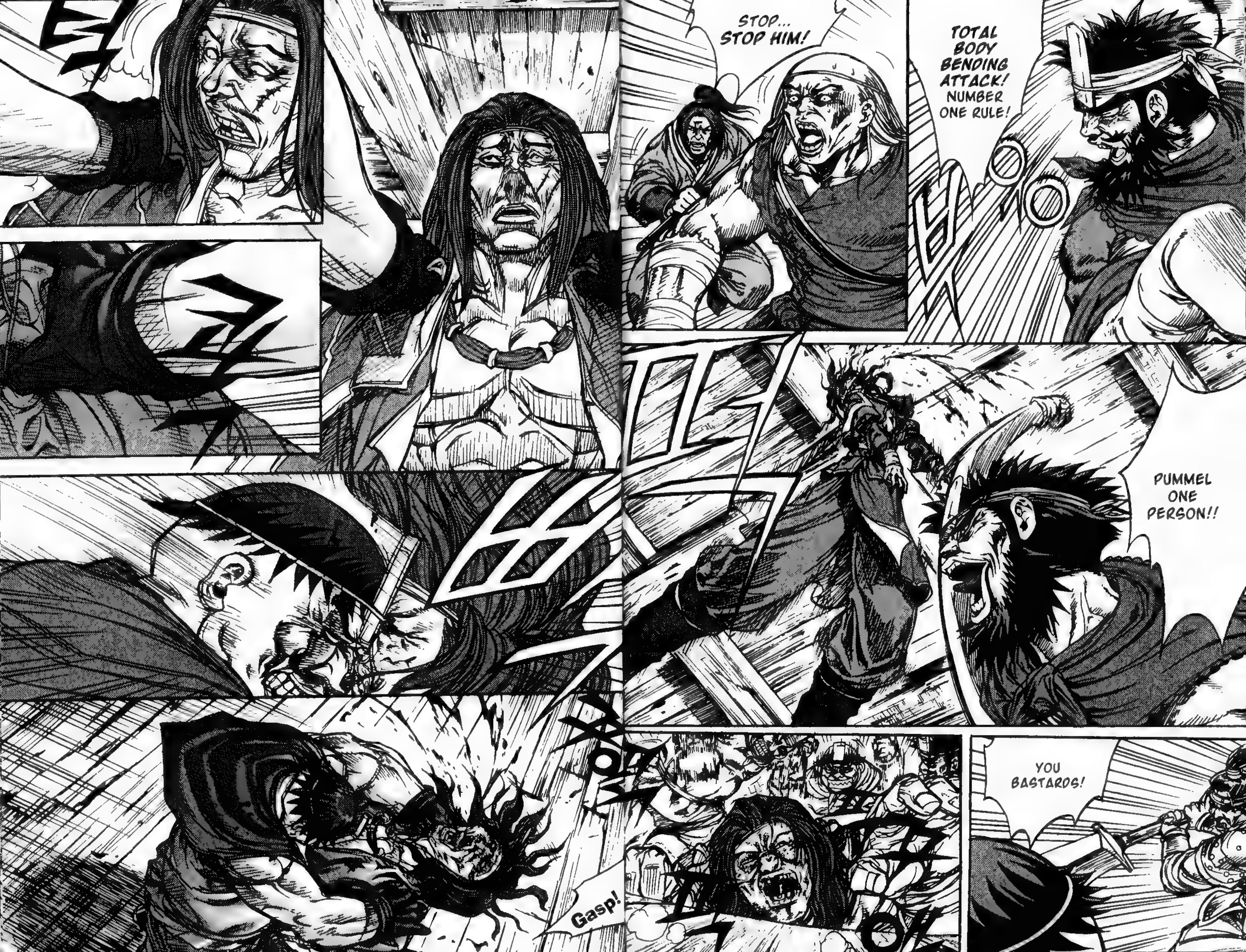

HUH?
I SEE... YOU HAVE SOME GUESTS!
BOSS!
THOSE MEN HAVE GOLD.
!
HA HA HA... DEAR OLDER BROTHERS.
DO YOU HAVE ANY MONEY?
IF YOU DO, WHY DON'T YOU SHARE SOME WITH US?
TAKE A HIKE, BUM!
빠직
HA HA! OH MY.

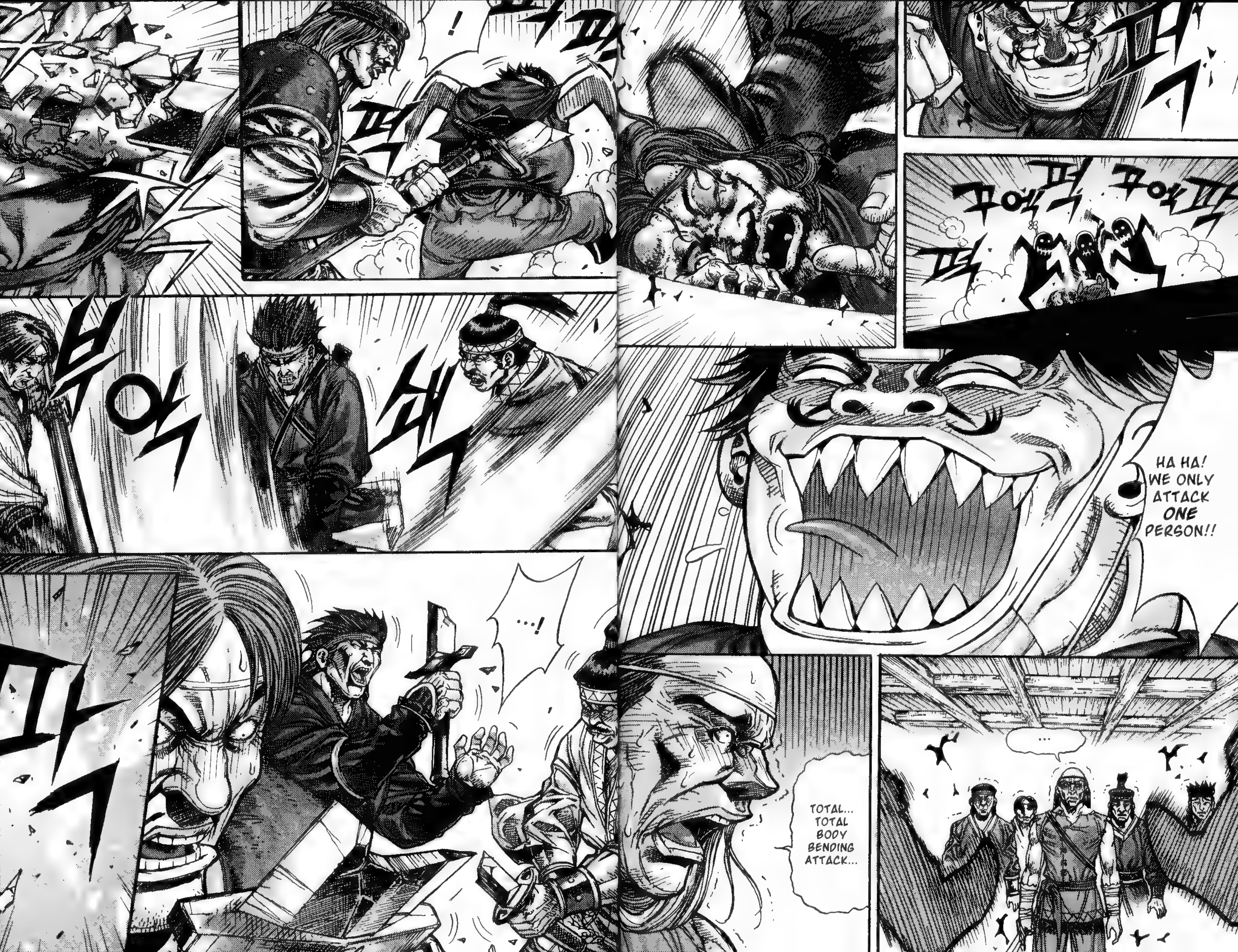

I GUESS WORDS JUST WON'T BE ENOUGH!!
MOMMY!
YIKES!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, GIVE US THE GOLD ON YOUR FOREHEADS!
WHAT ...?!!
DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
...!

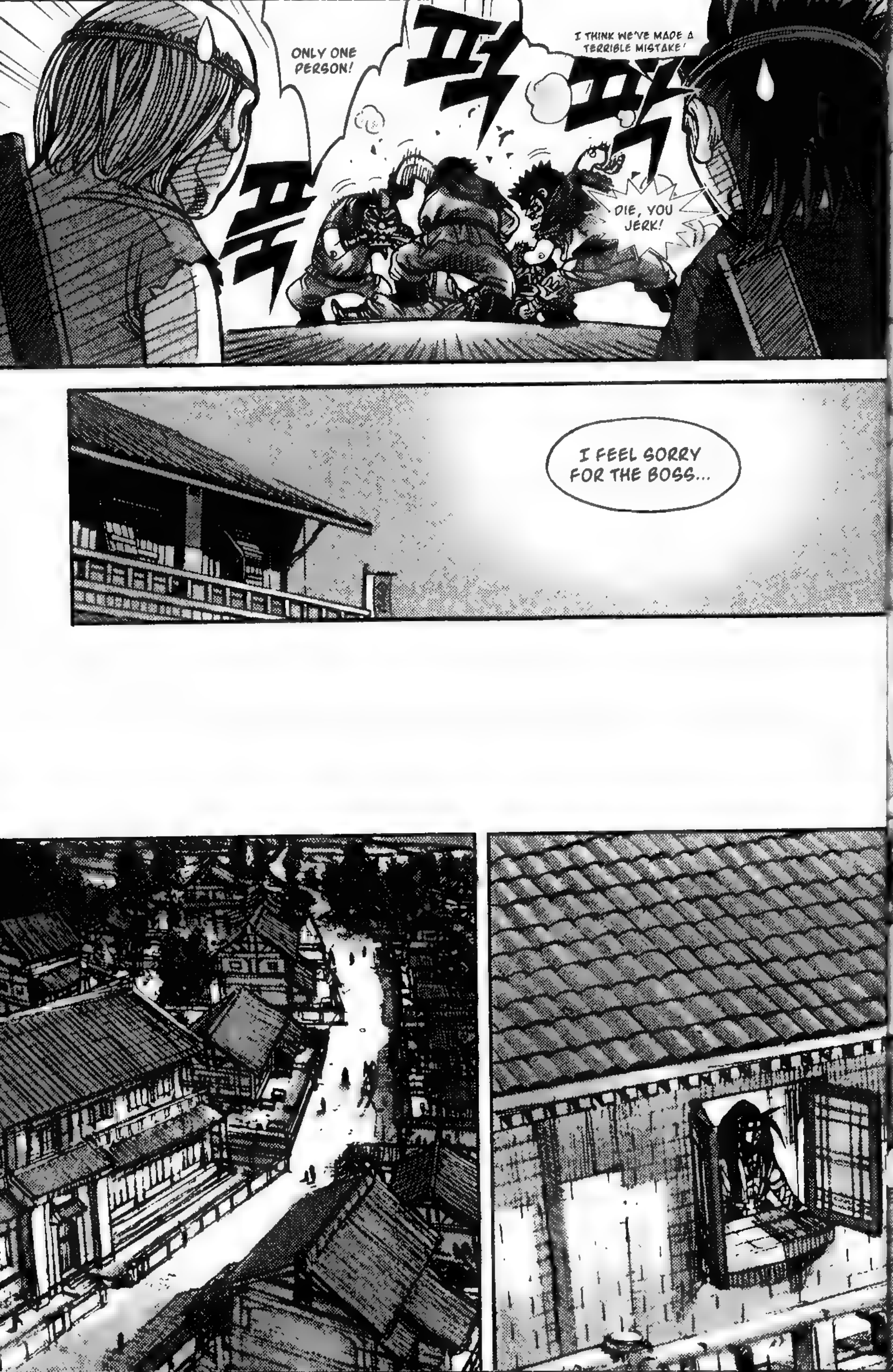

HEH HEH HEH... YOU WANT TO TAKE AWAY THE SYMBOL OF OUR HEROISM?
...!
...DO WE REALLY LOOK LIKE SUCH WEAKLINGS?
IN YOUR EYES...
YEP!
ACK!


YOU BASTARDS! DO YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE?!
WE ARE THE THREE...
...INSANE HOUNDS!!
SO?
NOTHING!
STUPID FOOLS! YOU BETTER NOT REGRET THIS, BECAUSE YOU BROUGHT IT ON YOURSELVES!
GRR...!
KILL THEM!
DO YOU REALLY THINK WE'RE JUST GONNA ROLL OVER AND DIE?

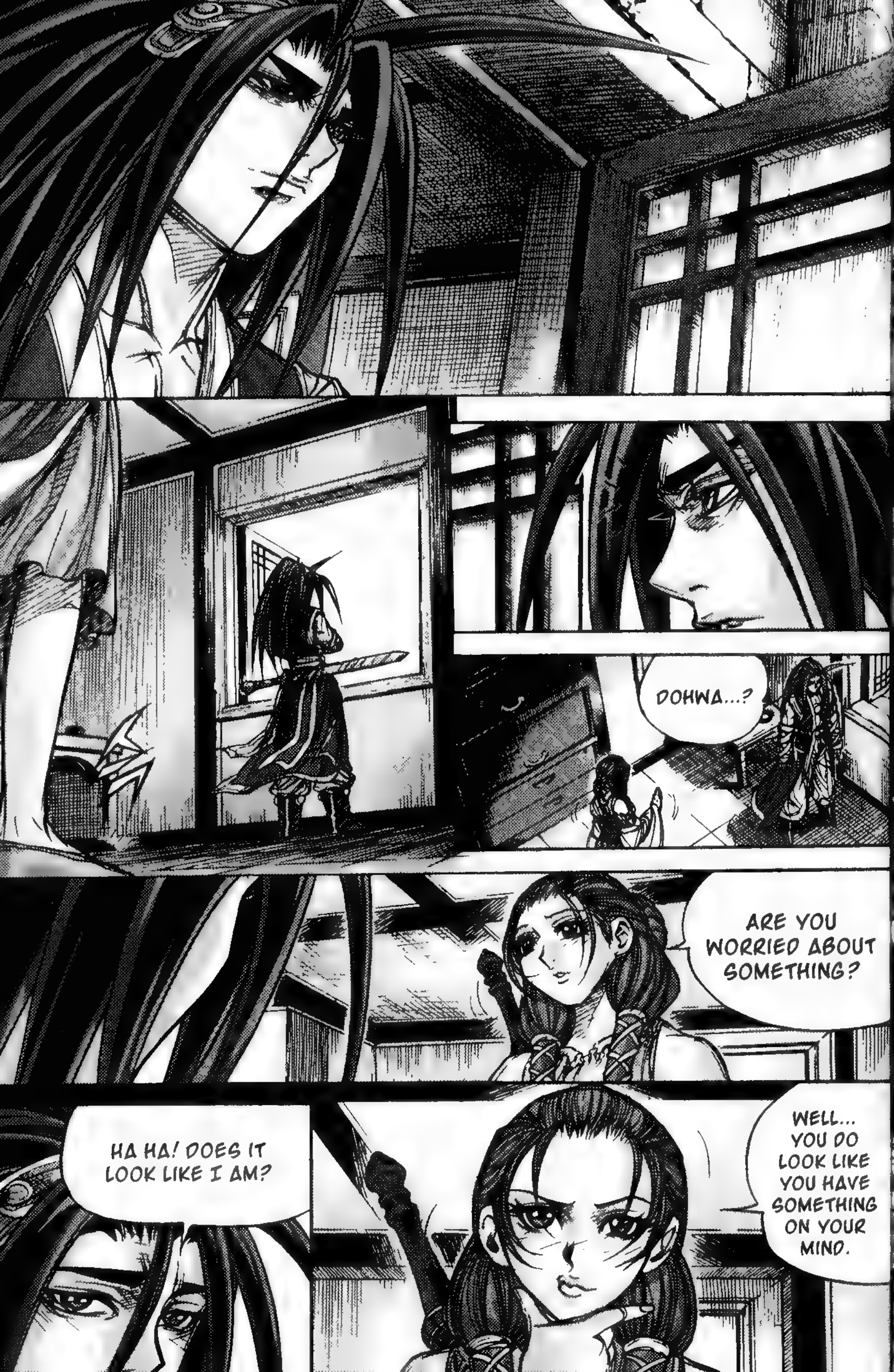

TOTAL BODY...
...BENDING ATTACK!
WHAT... WHAT'S THIS?
YOU'RE BEGGING ME TO KILL YOU, AREN'T YOU?!
DIE!!
I DON'T THINK SO!

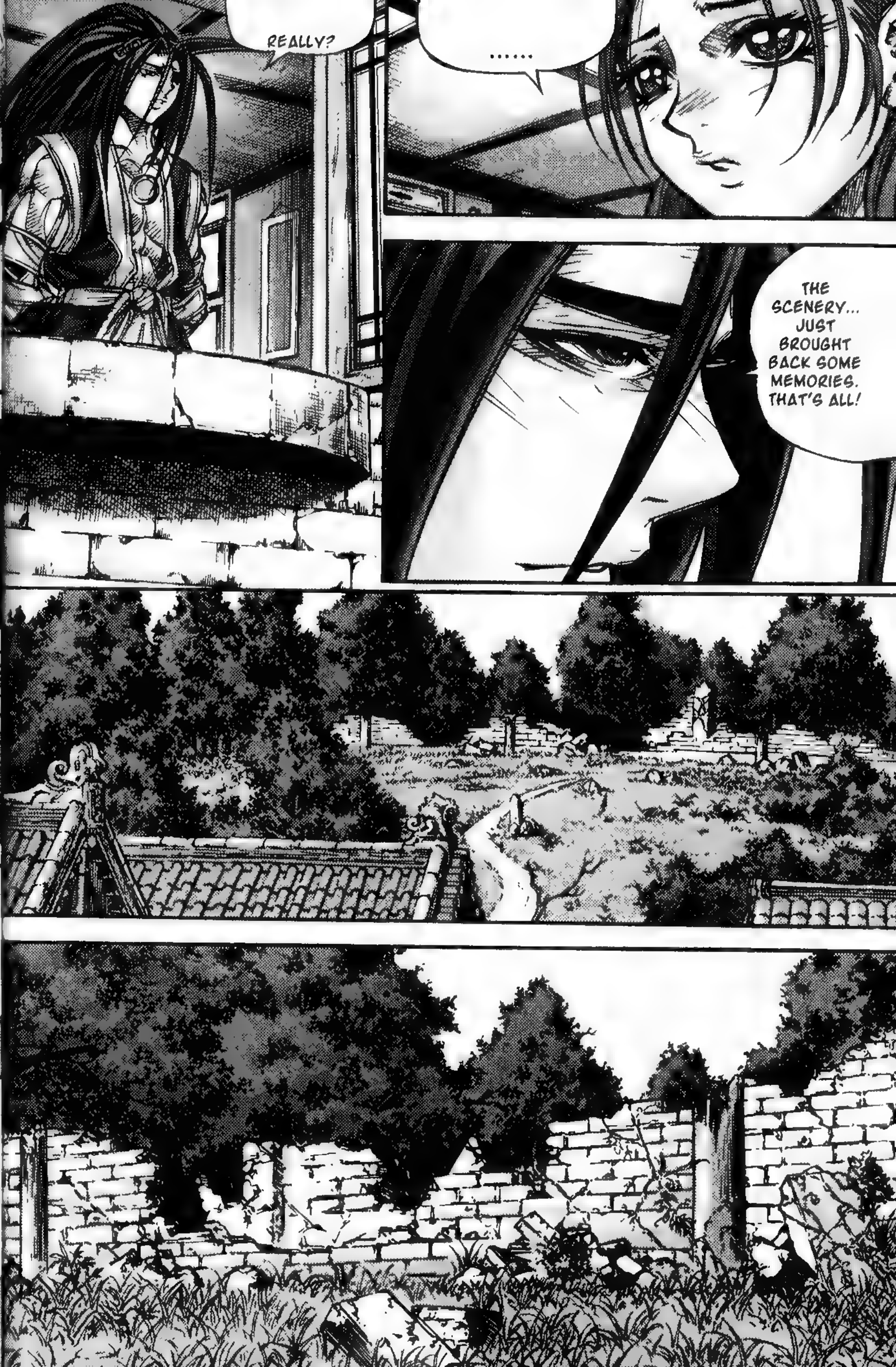

TOTAL BODY BENDING ATTACK! NUMBER ONE RULE!
STOP... STOP HIM!
PUMMEL ONE PERSON!!
YOU BASTARDS!
Gasp!

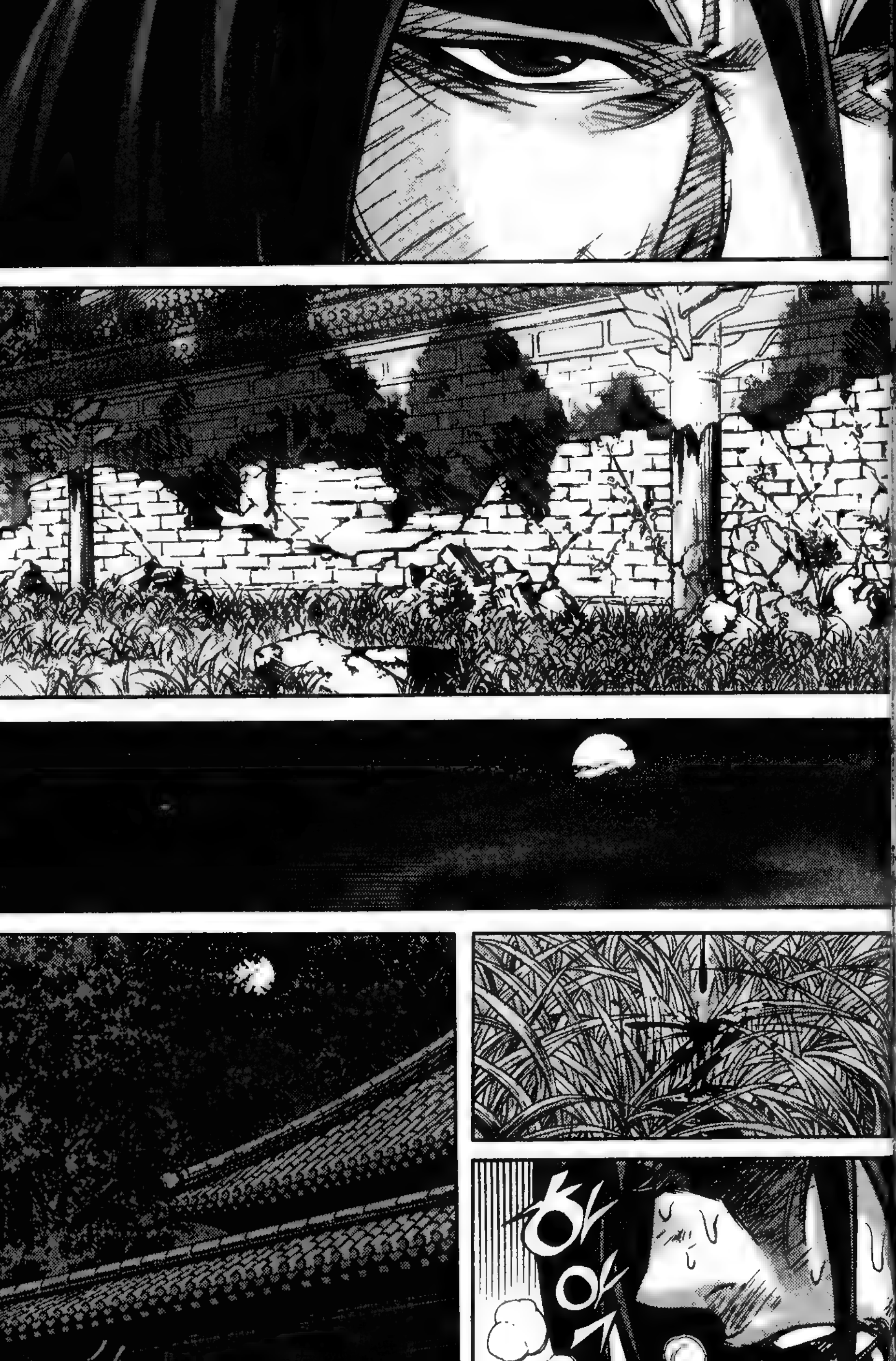

!
퍽
부악
쇄액
...!
꾸에엑
퍽
꾸에엑
퍽
HA HA! WE ONLY ATTACK ONE PERSON!!
TOTAL... TOTAL BODY BENDING ATTACK...
...

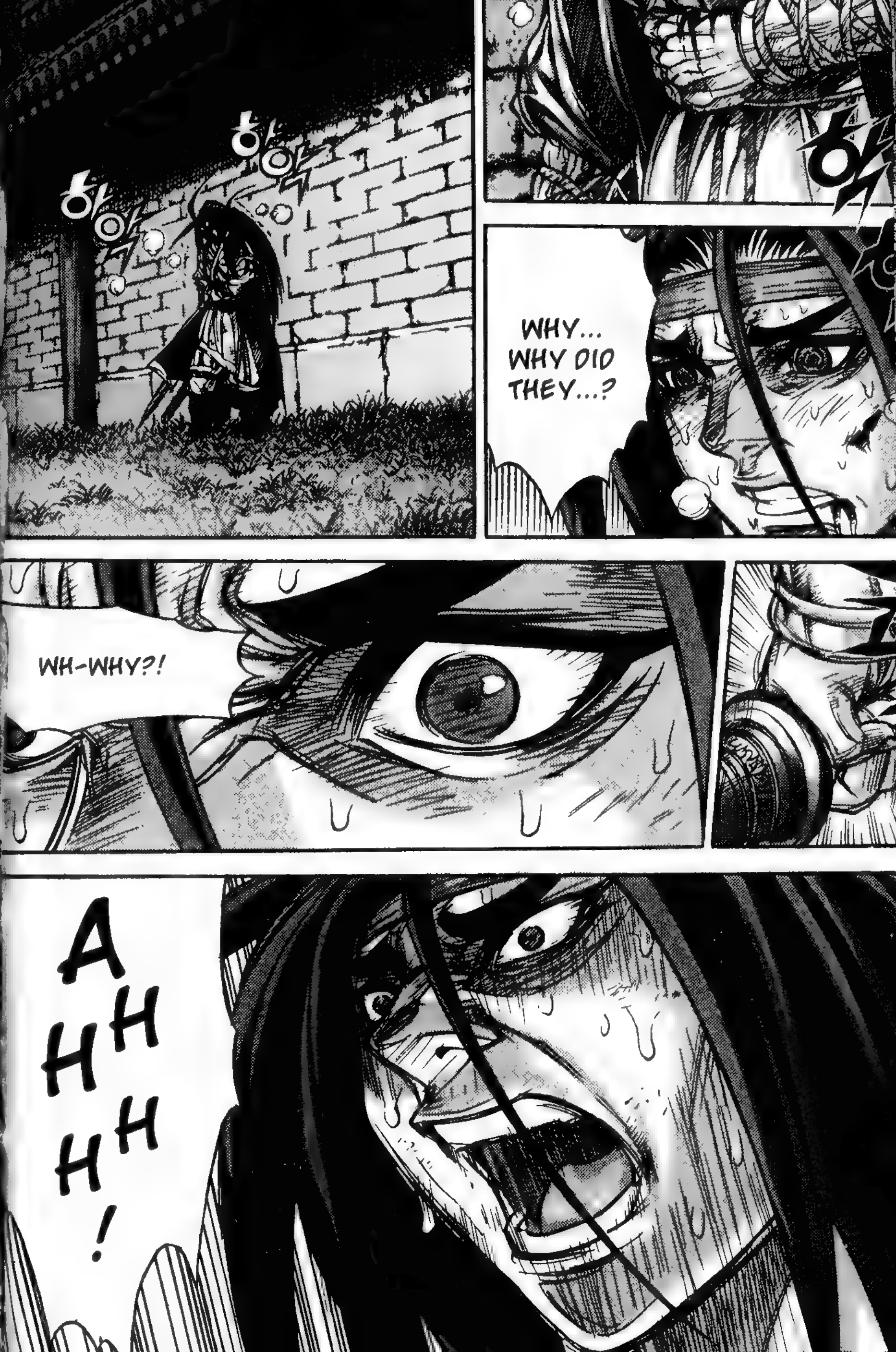

ONLY ONE PERSON!
퍽
퍽
퍽
I THINK WE'VE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE!
DIE, YOU JERK!
I FEEL SORRY FOR THE BOSS...

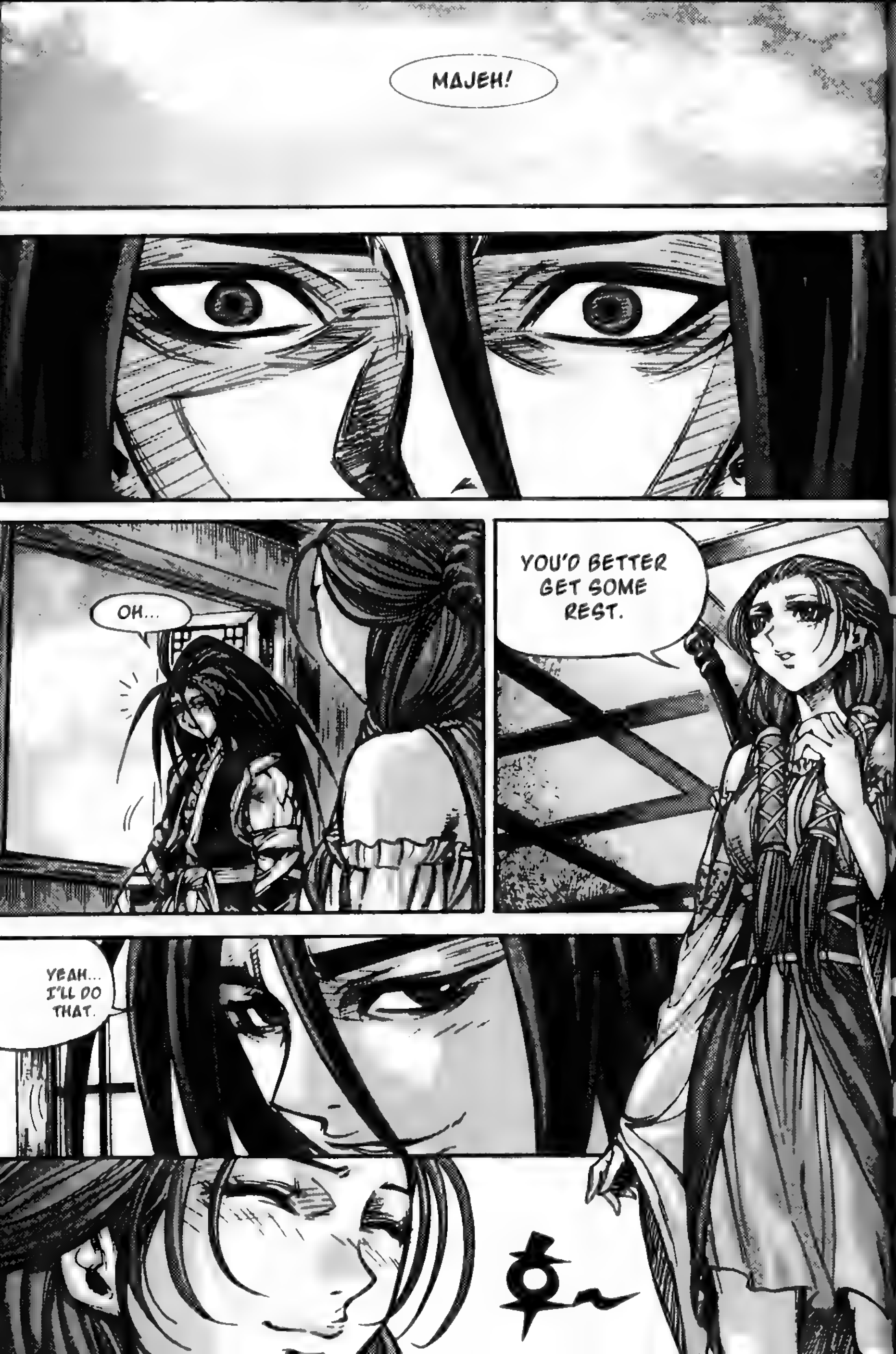
KING OF HELL™

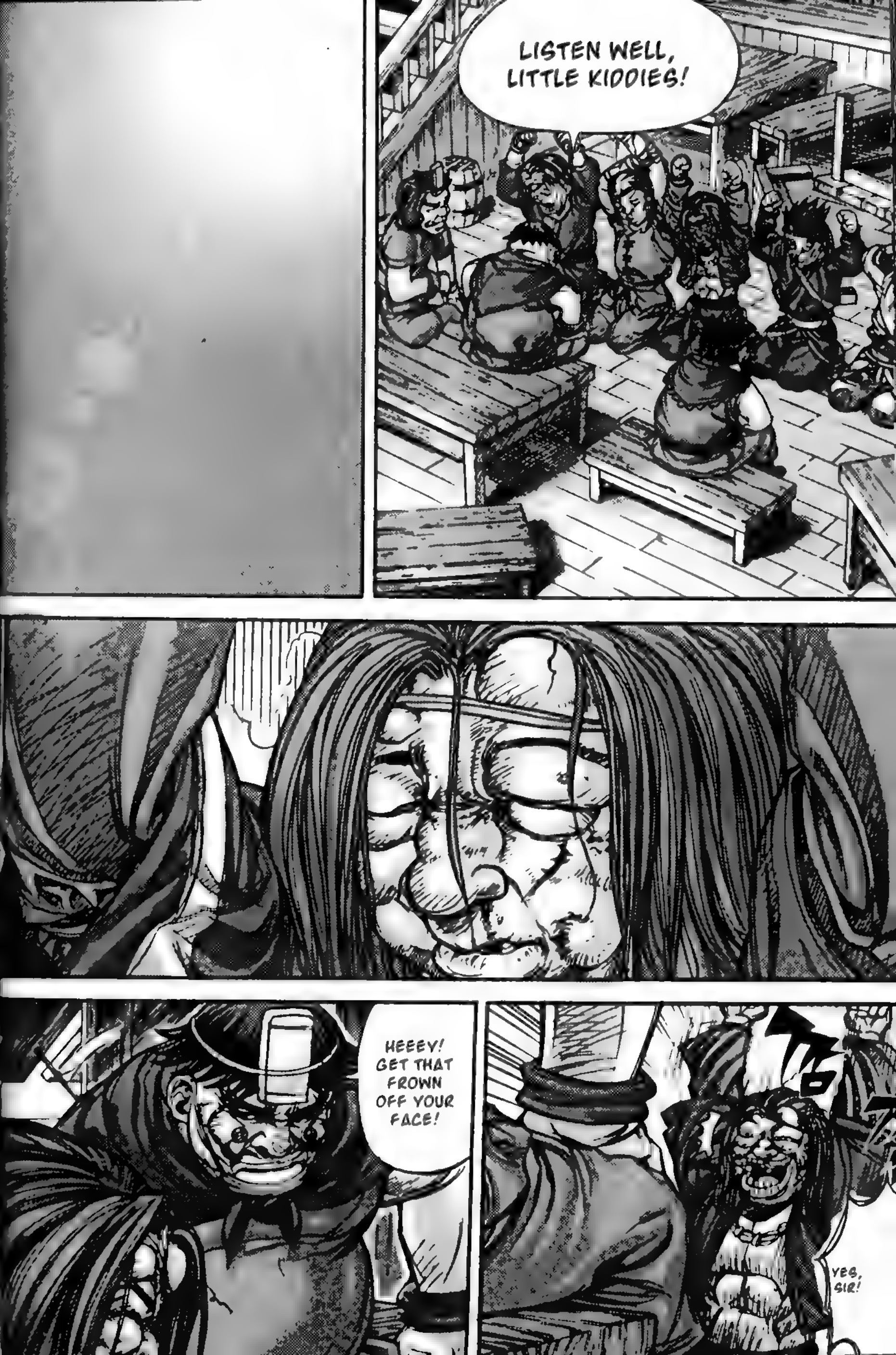

DOHWA...?
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?
HA HA! DOES IT LOOK LIKE I AM?
WELL... YOU DO LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND.

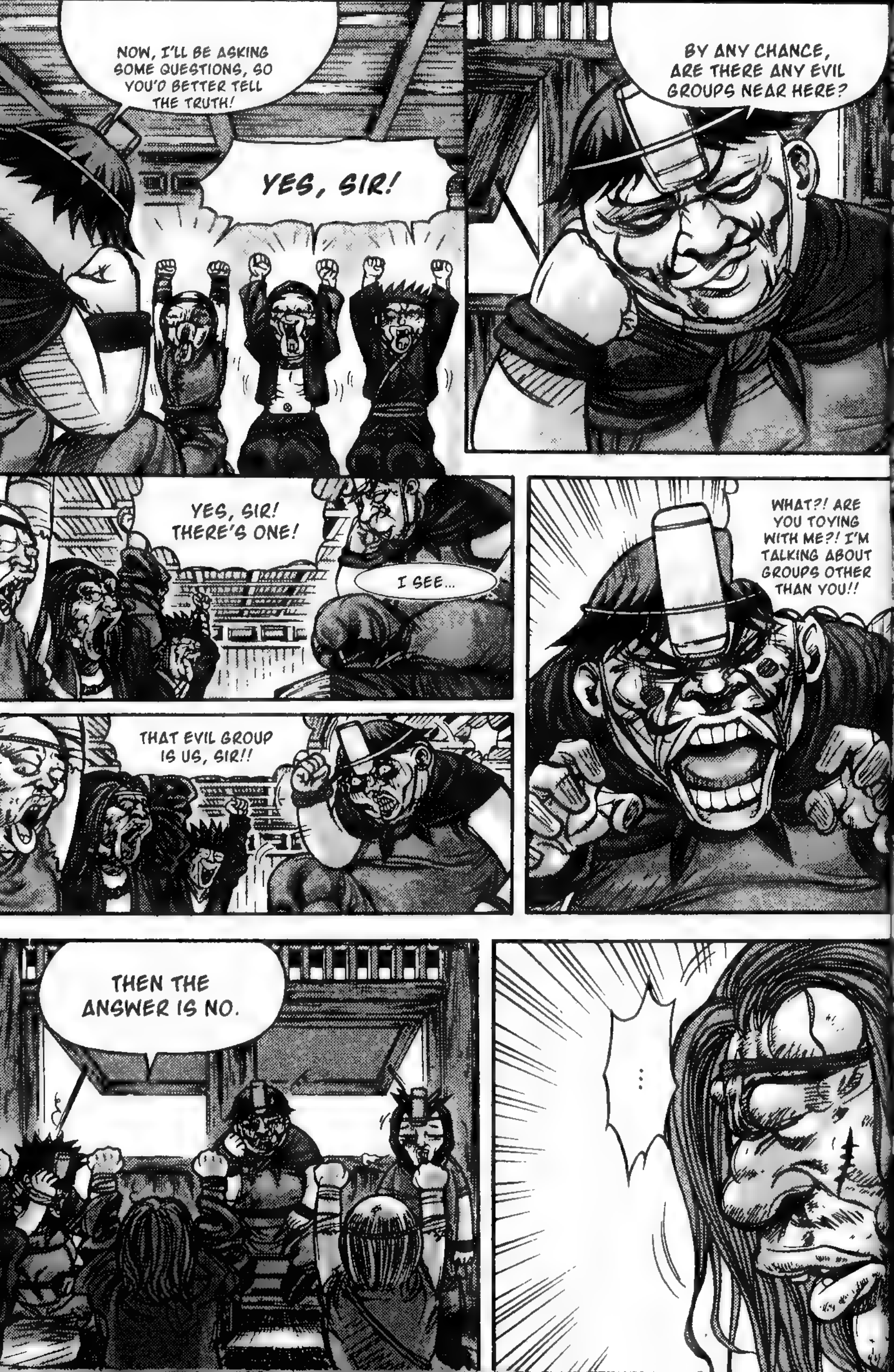

REALLY?
......
THE SCENERY... JUST BROUGHT BACK SOME MEMORIES. THAT'S ALL!

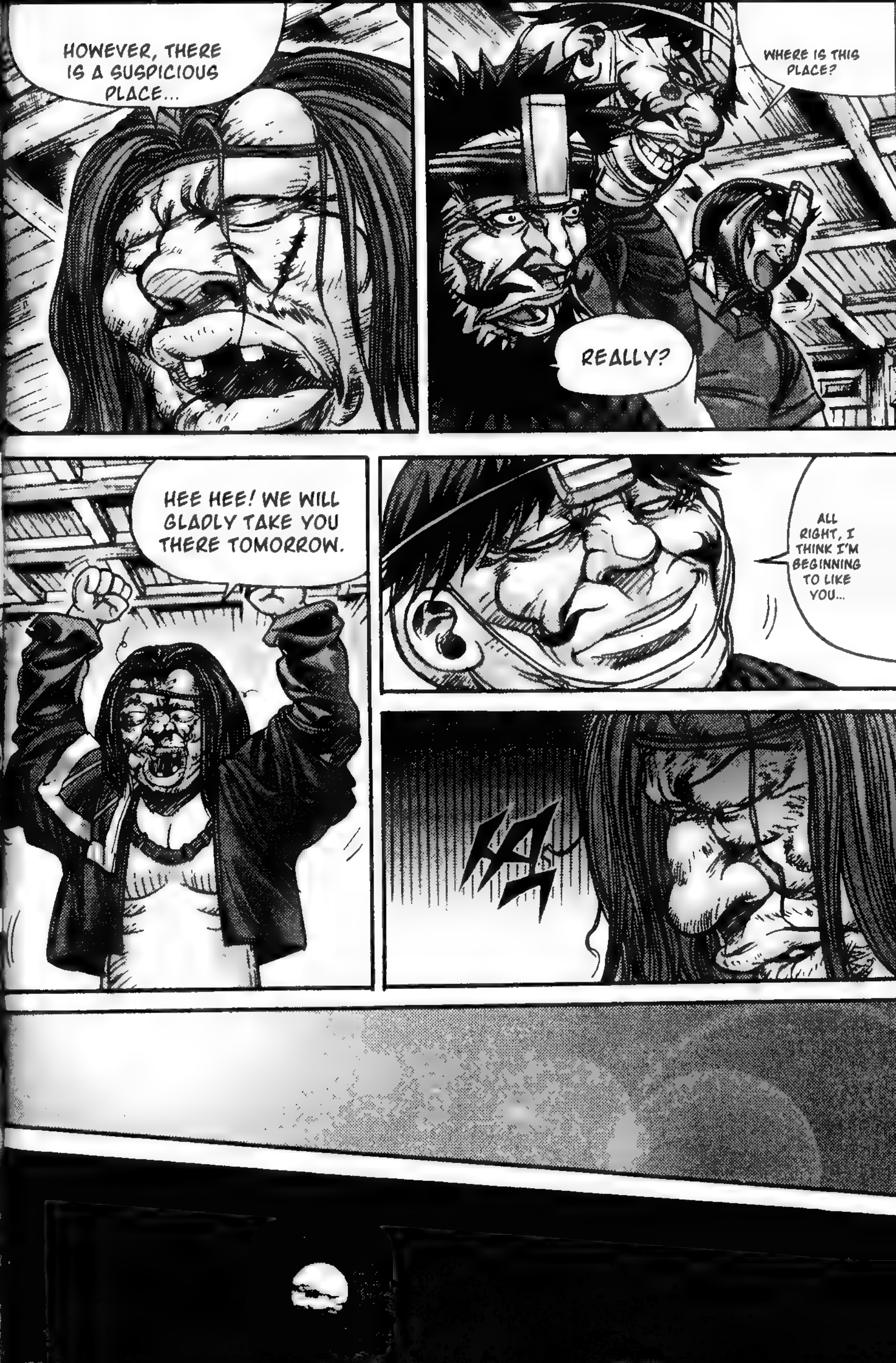

허억

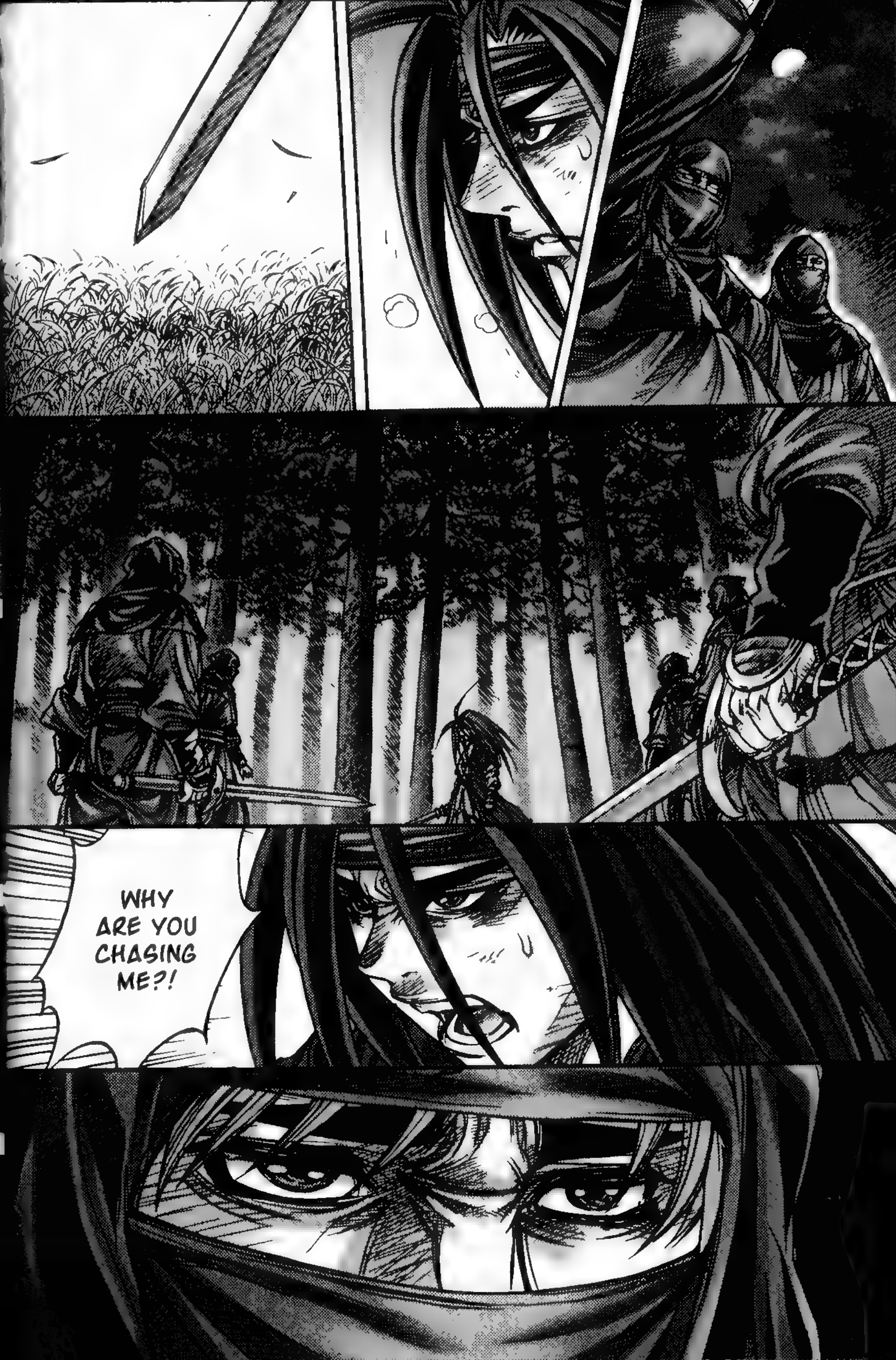

허억
허억
허억
WHY... WHY DID THEY...?
WH-WHY?!
AHHHHHH!

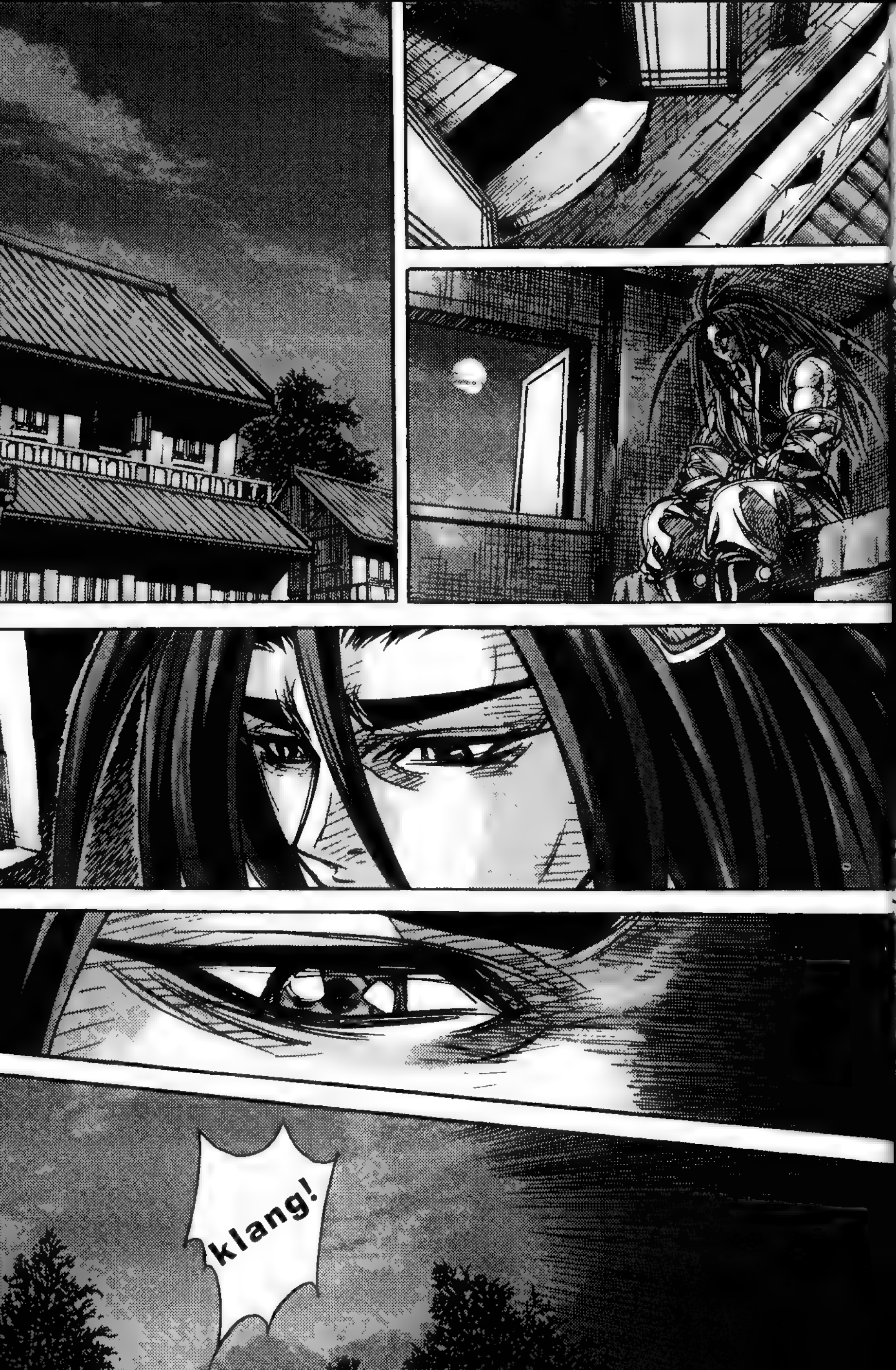

MAJEH!
OH...
YOU'D BETTER GET SOME REST.
YEAH... I'LL DO THAT.

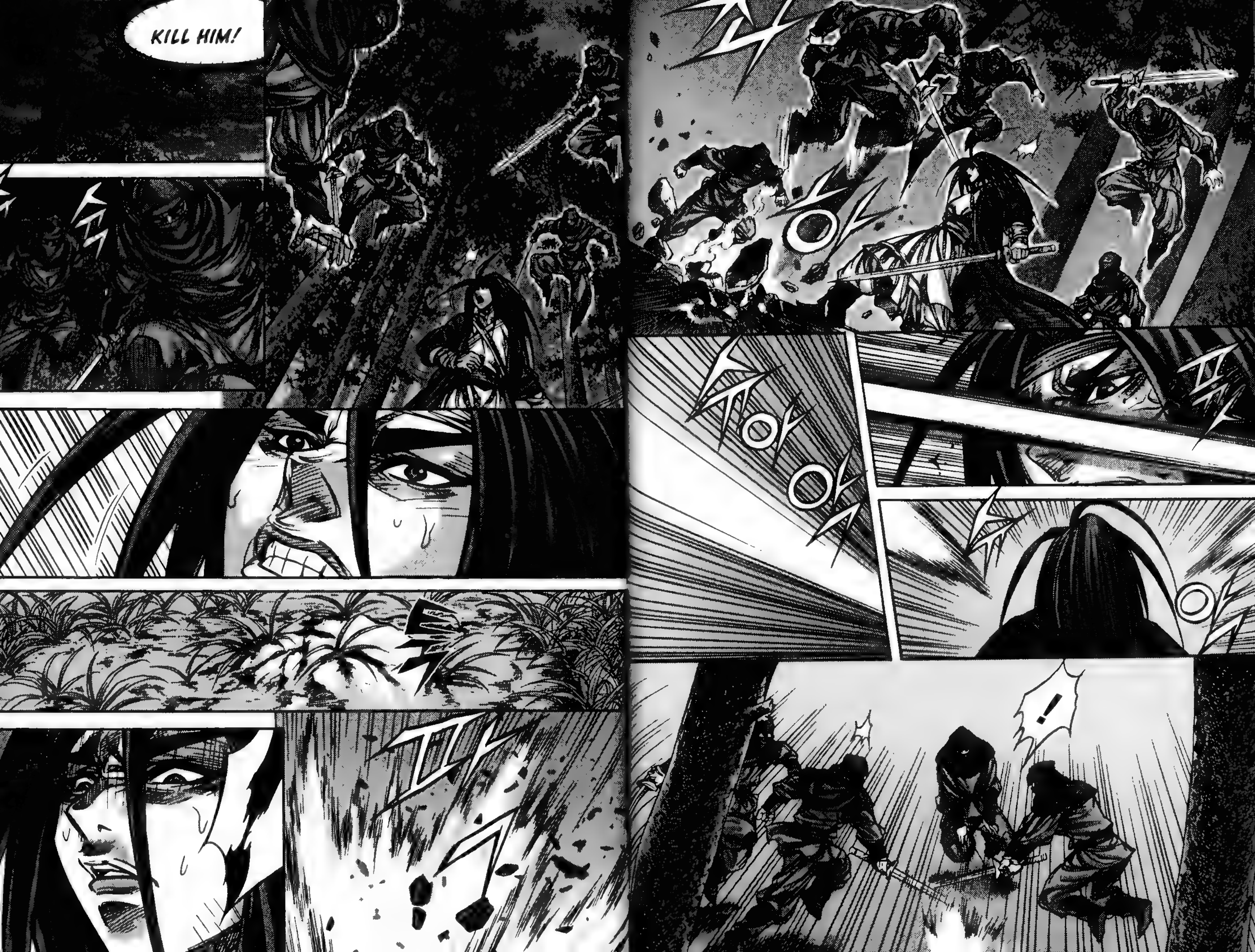

LISTEN WELL, LITTLE KIDDIES!
HEEEY! GET THAT FROWN OFF YOUR FACE!
YES, SIR!

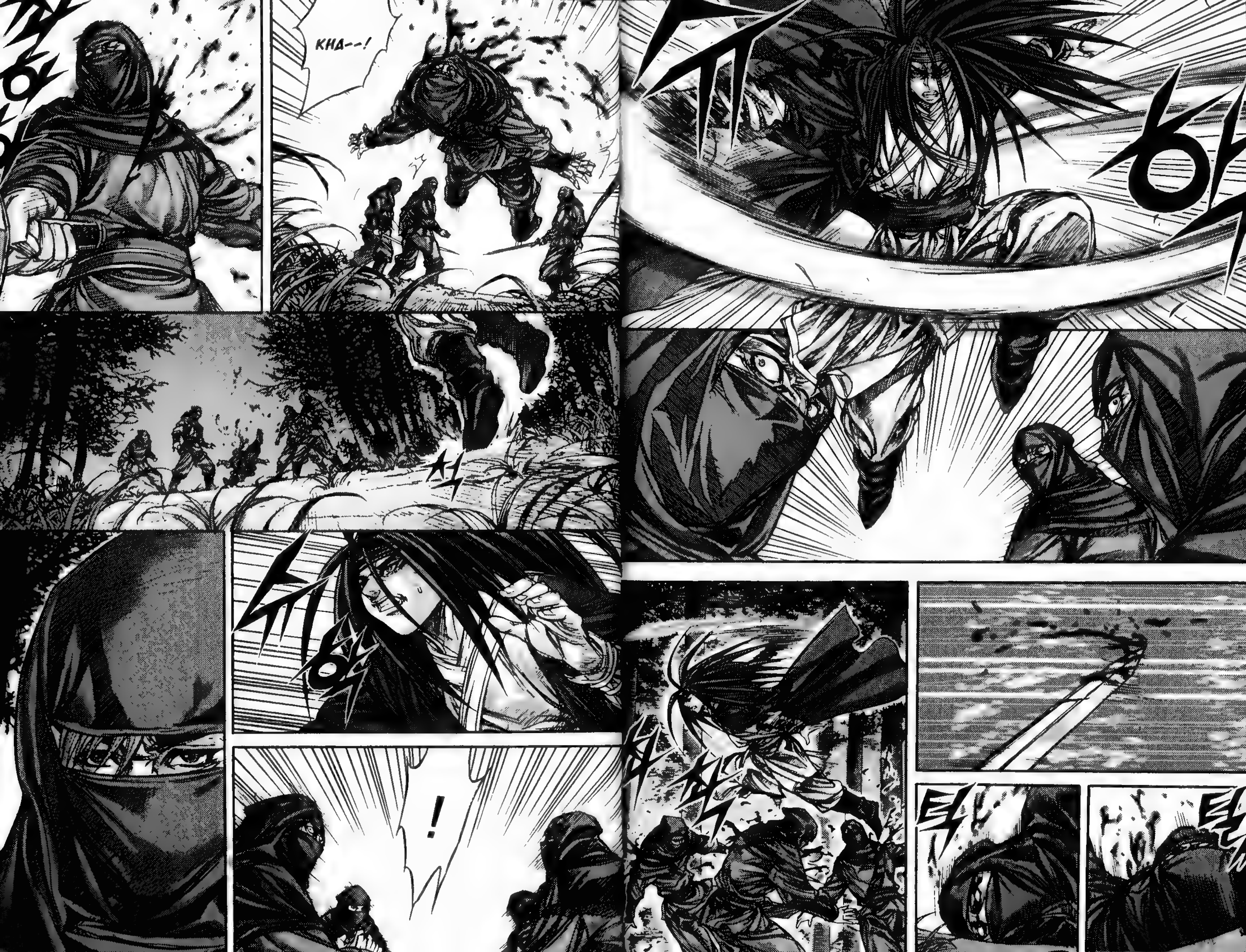

NOW, I'LL BE ASKING SOME QUESTIONS, SO YOU'D BETTER TELL THE TRUTH!
YES, SIR!
BY ANY CHANCE, ARE THERE ANY EVIL GROUPS NEAR HERE?
YES, SIR! THERE'S ONE!
I SEE...
THAT EVIL GROUP IS US, SIR!!
WHAT?! ARE YOU TOYING WITH ME?! I'M TALKING ABOUT GROUPS OTHER THAN YOU!!
THEN THE ANSWER IS NO.
...

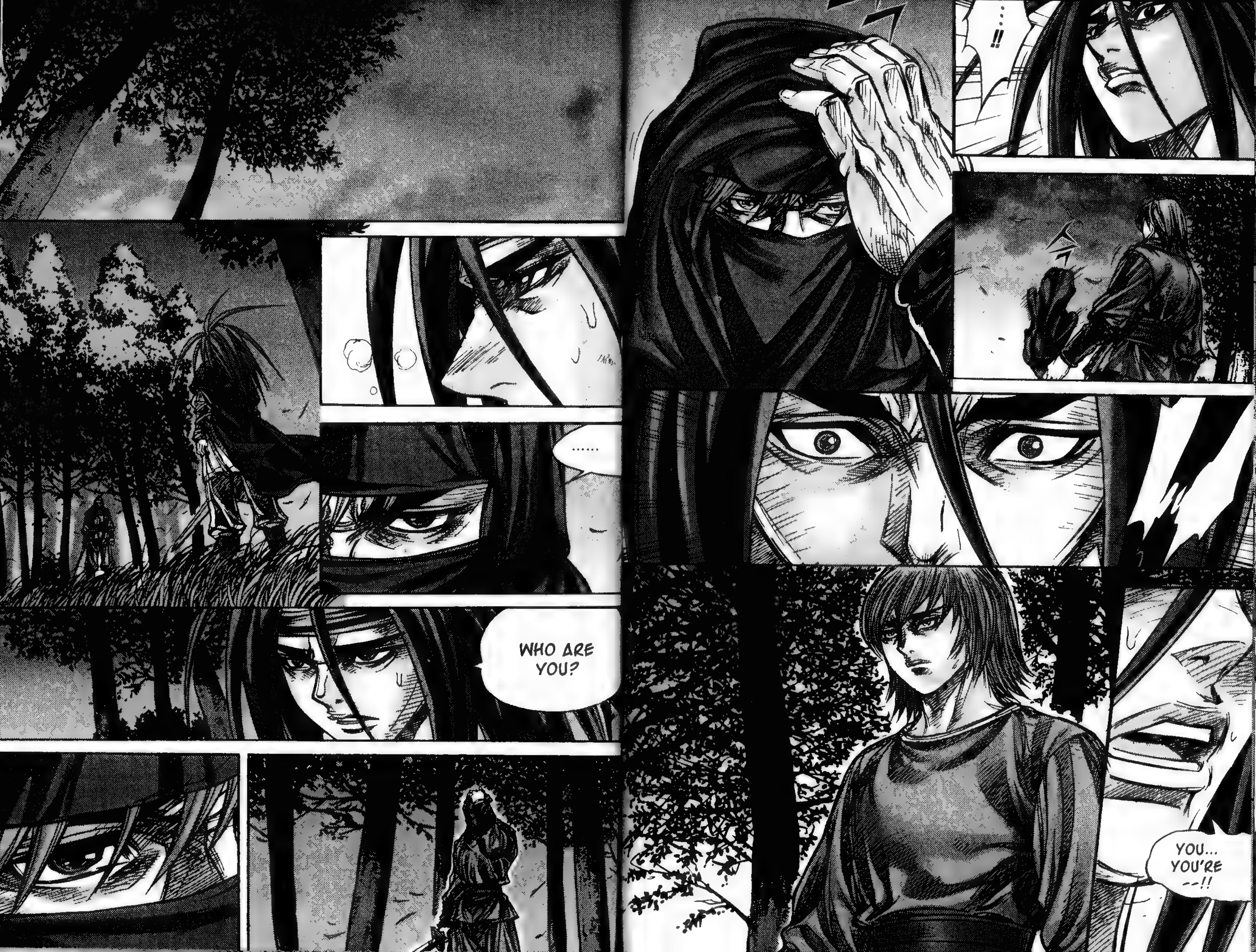

HOWEVER, THERE IS A SUSPICIOUS PLACE...
WHERE IS THIS PLACE?
REALLY?
HEE HEE! WE WILL GLADLY TAKE YOU THERE TOMORROW.
ALL RIGHT, I THINK I'M BEGINNING TO LIKE YOU...

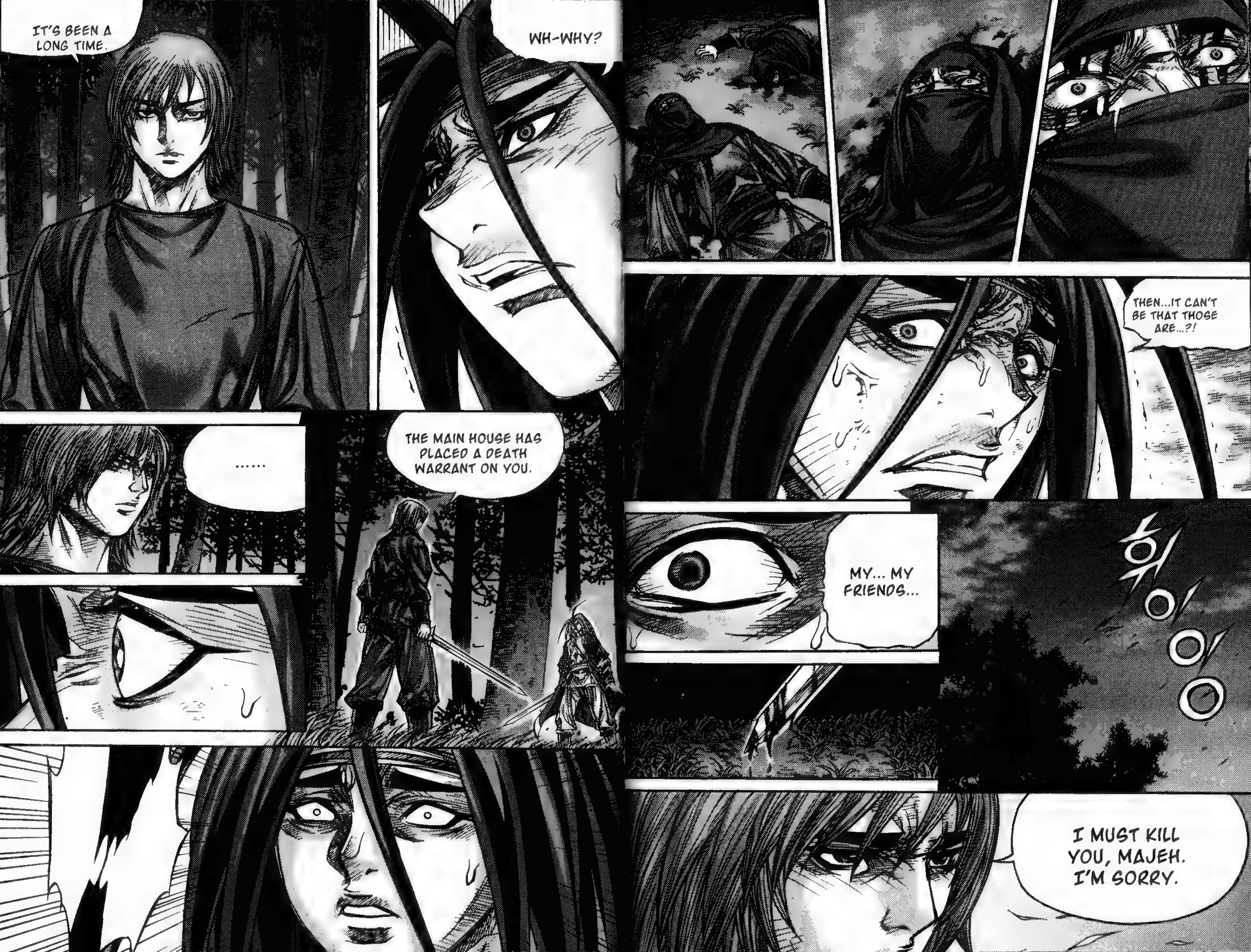

WHY ARE YOU CHASING ME?!

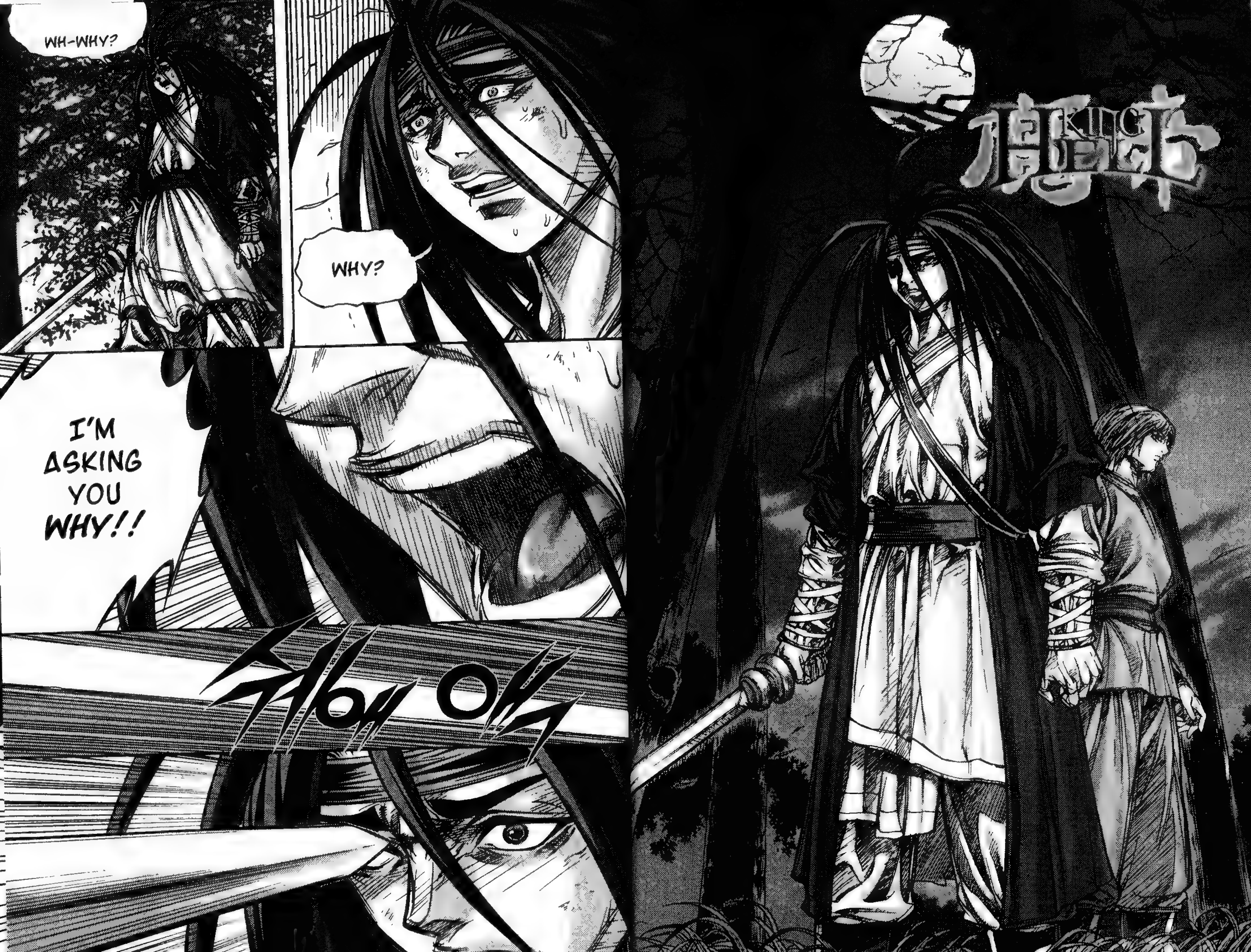

klang!

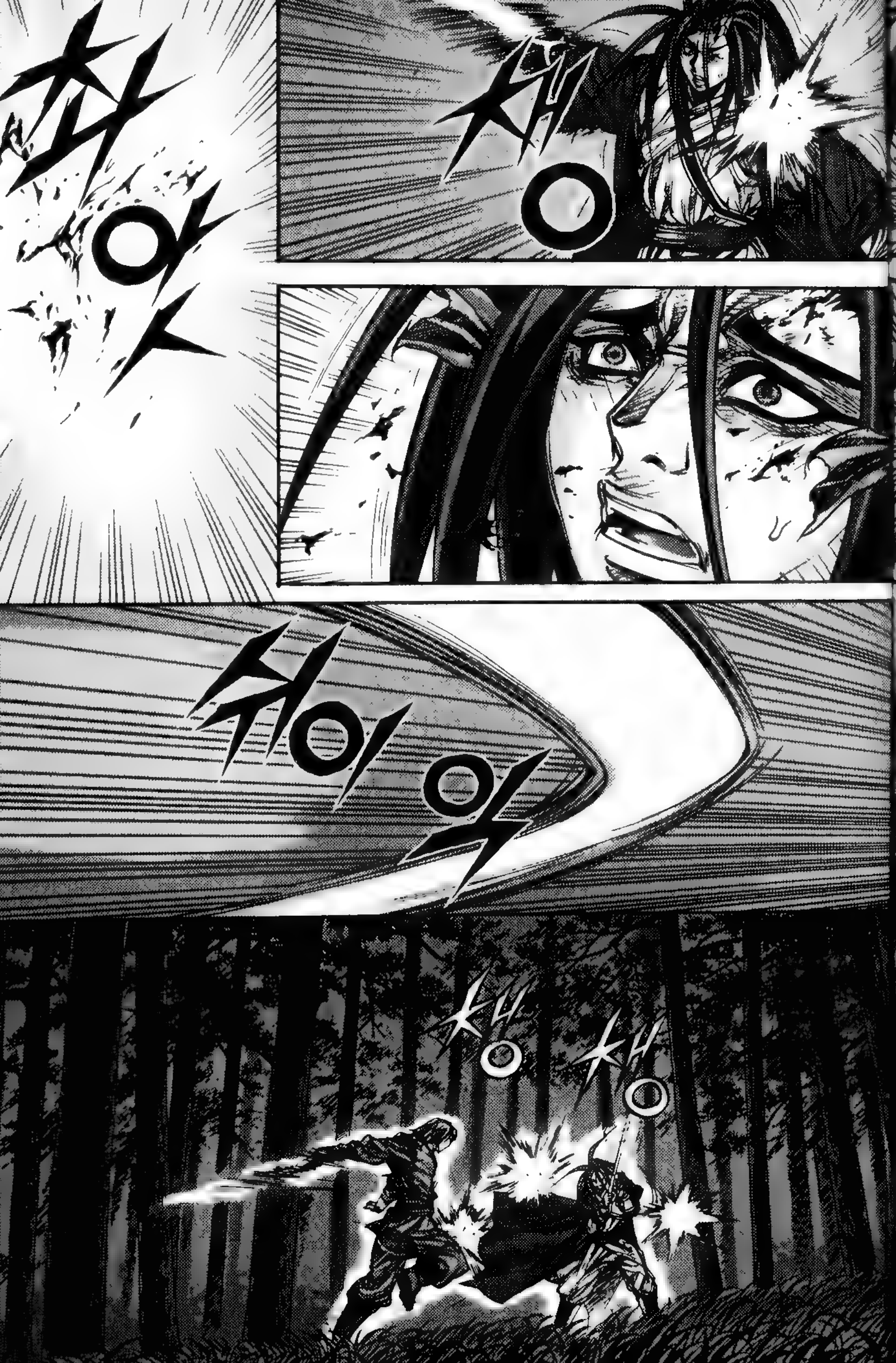

KILL HIM!
!

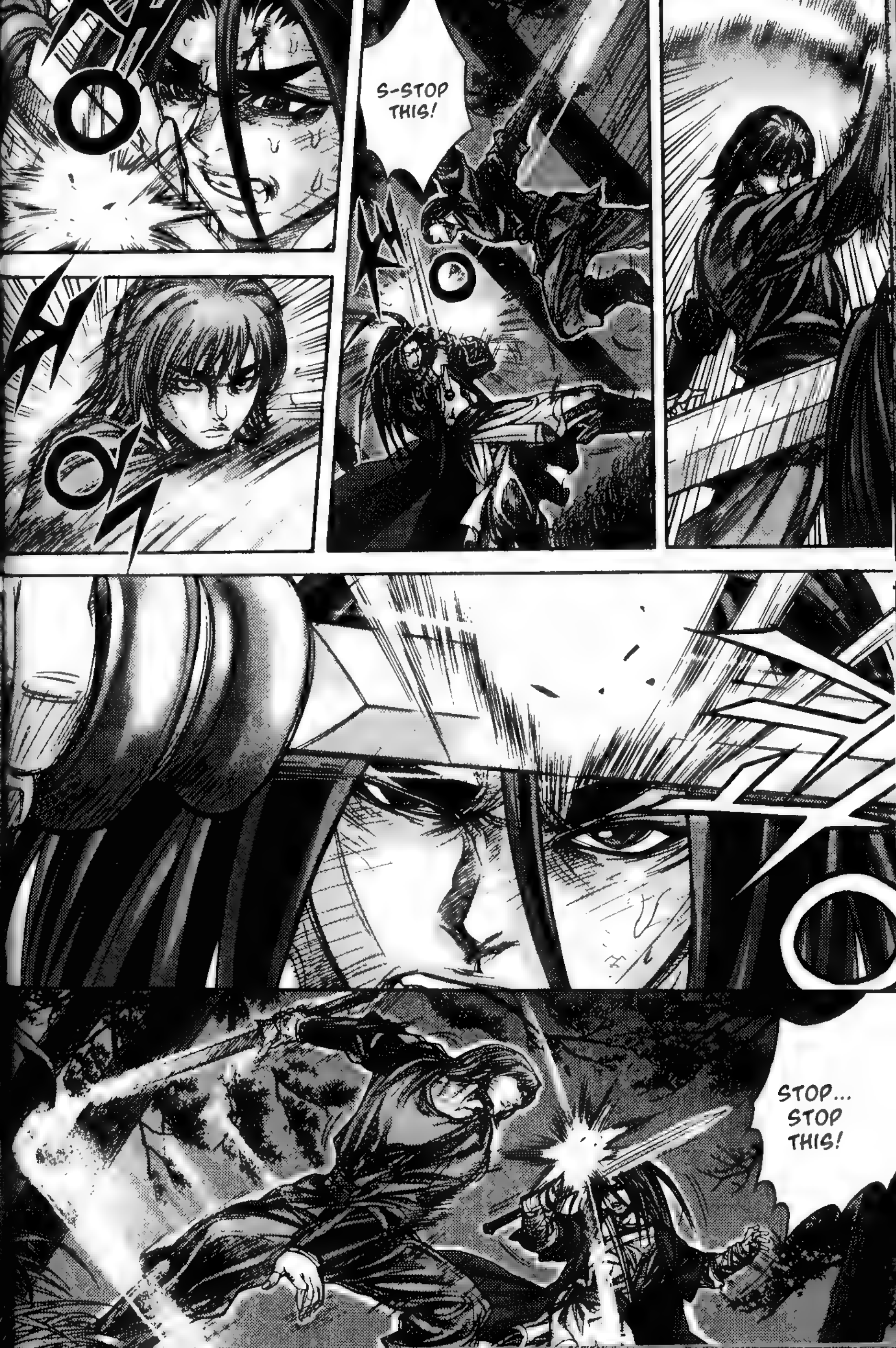

KHA--!
!

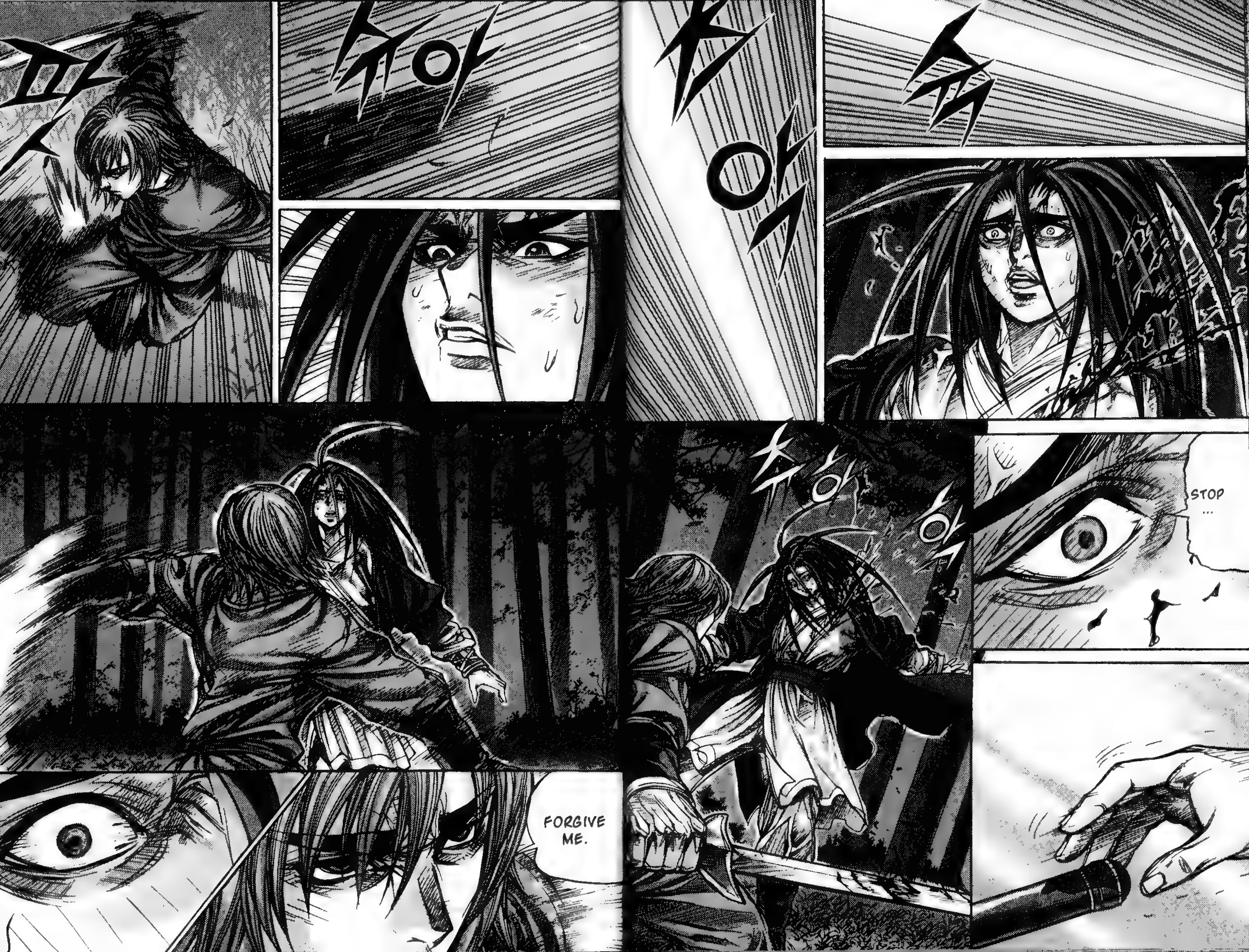

......
WHO ARE YOU?
...!!
YOU... YOU'RE --!!

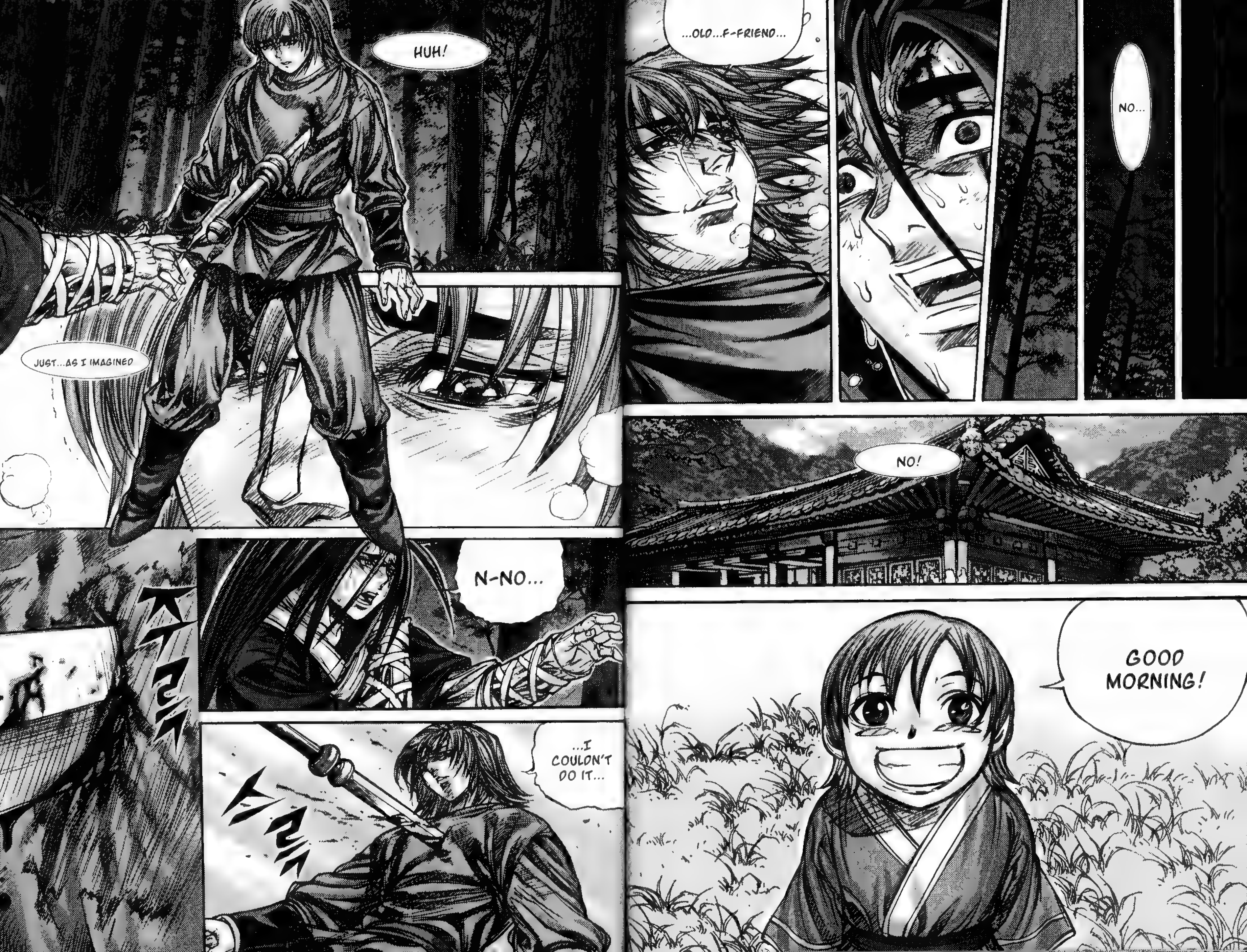

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
WH-WHY?
......
THE MAIN HOUSE HAS PLACED A DEATH WARRANT ON YOU.
THEN...IT CAN'T BE THAT THOSE ARE...?!
MY... MY FRIENDS...
휘이이ㅇ
I MUST KILL YOU, MAJEH. I'M SORRY.

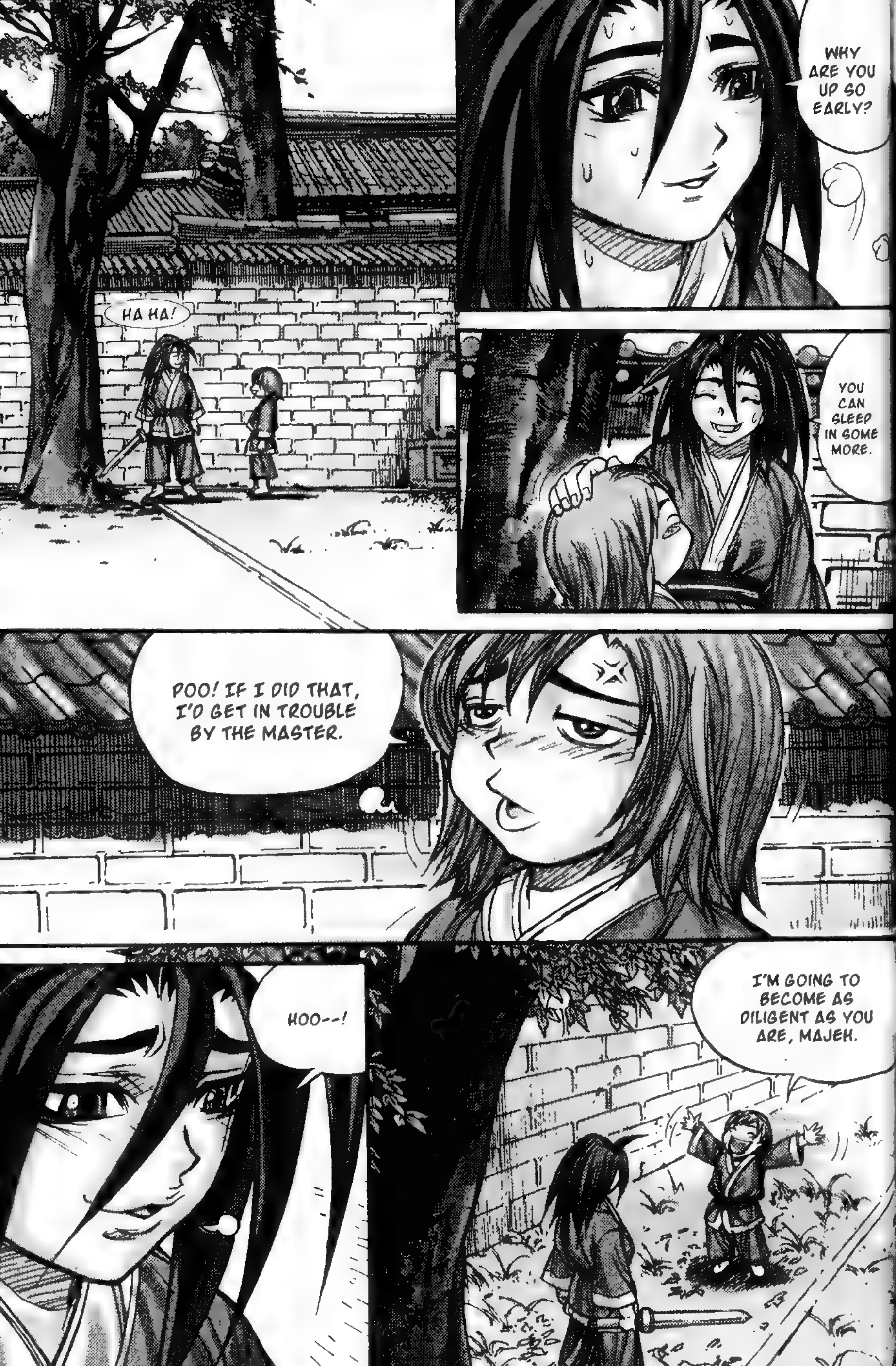

WH-WHY?
WHY?
I'M ASKING YOU WHY!!
KING

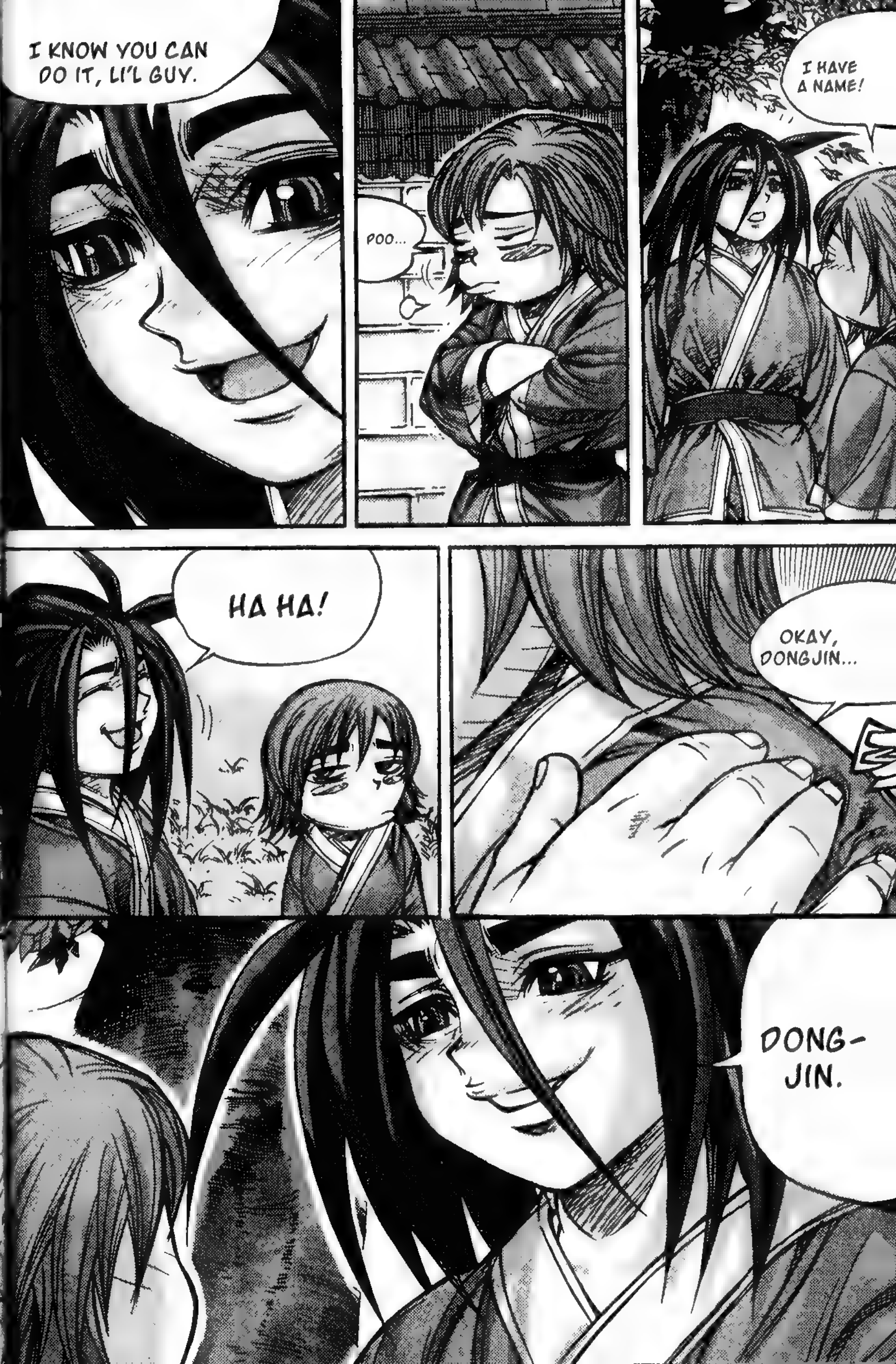


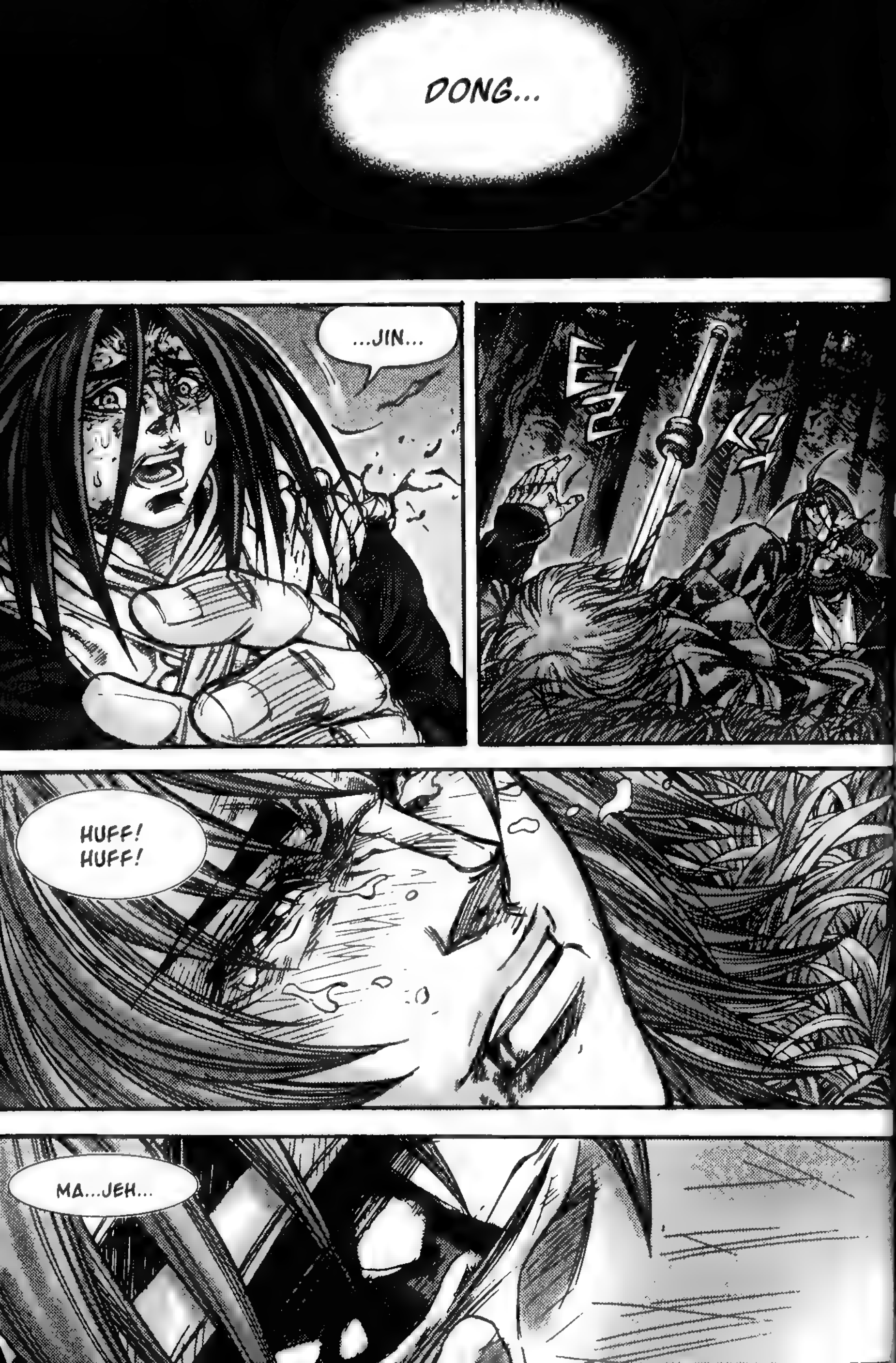

S-STOP THIS!
STOP... STOP THIS!

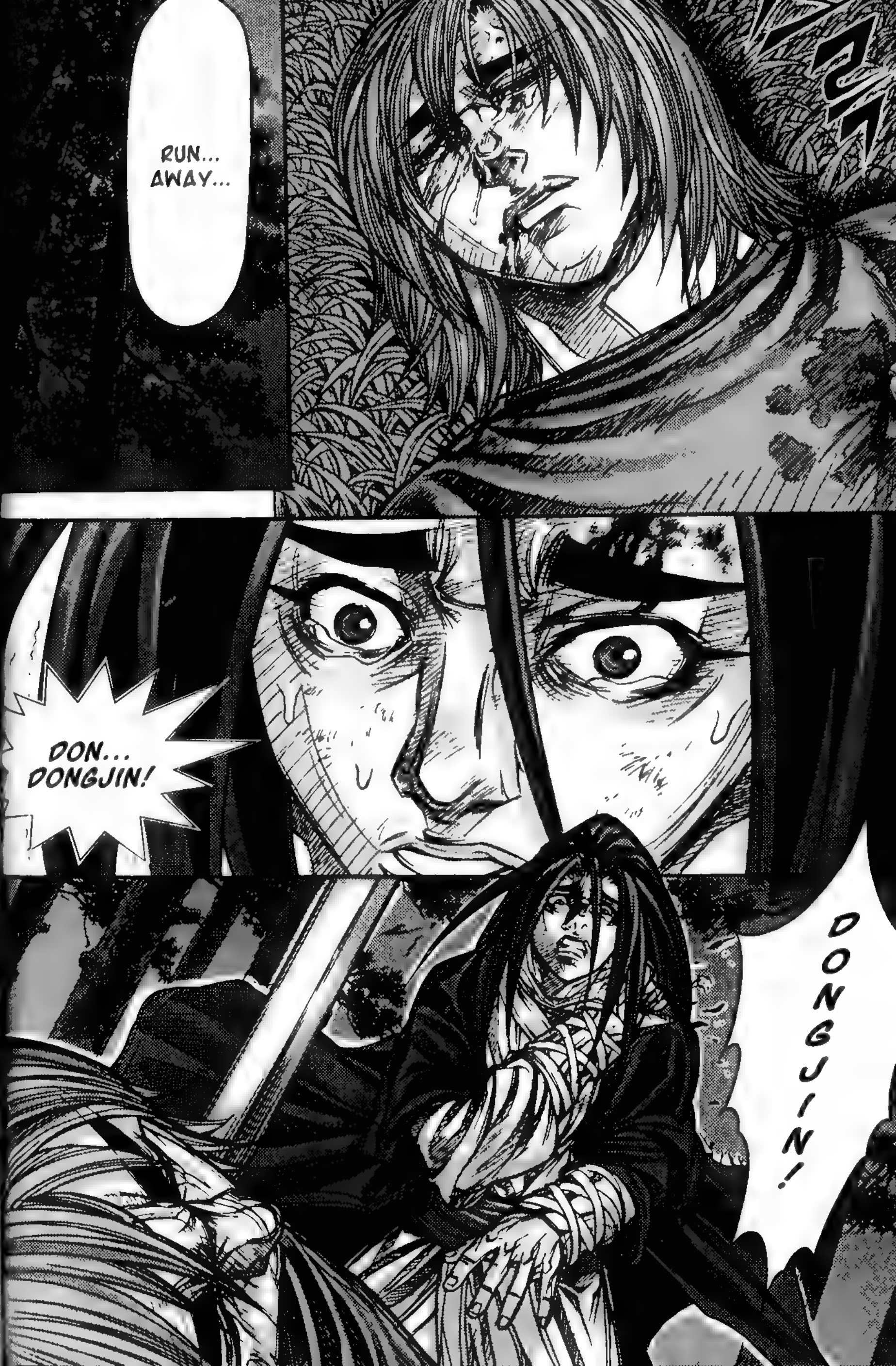

팍
쉬아
차아아
츠
차아아
STOP ...
FORGIVE ME.

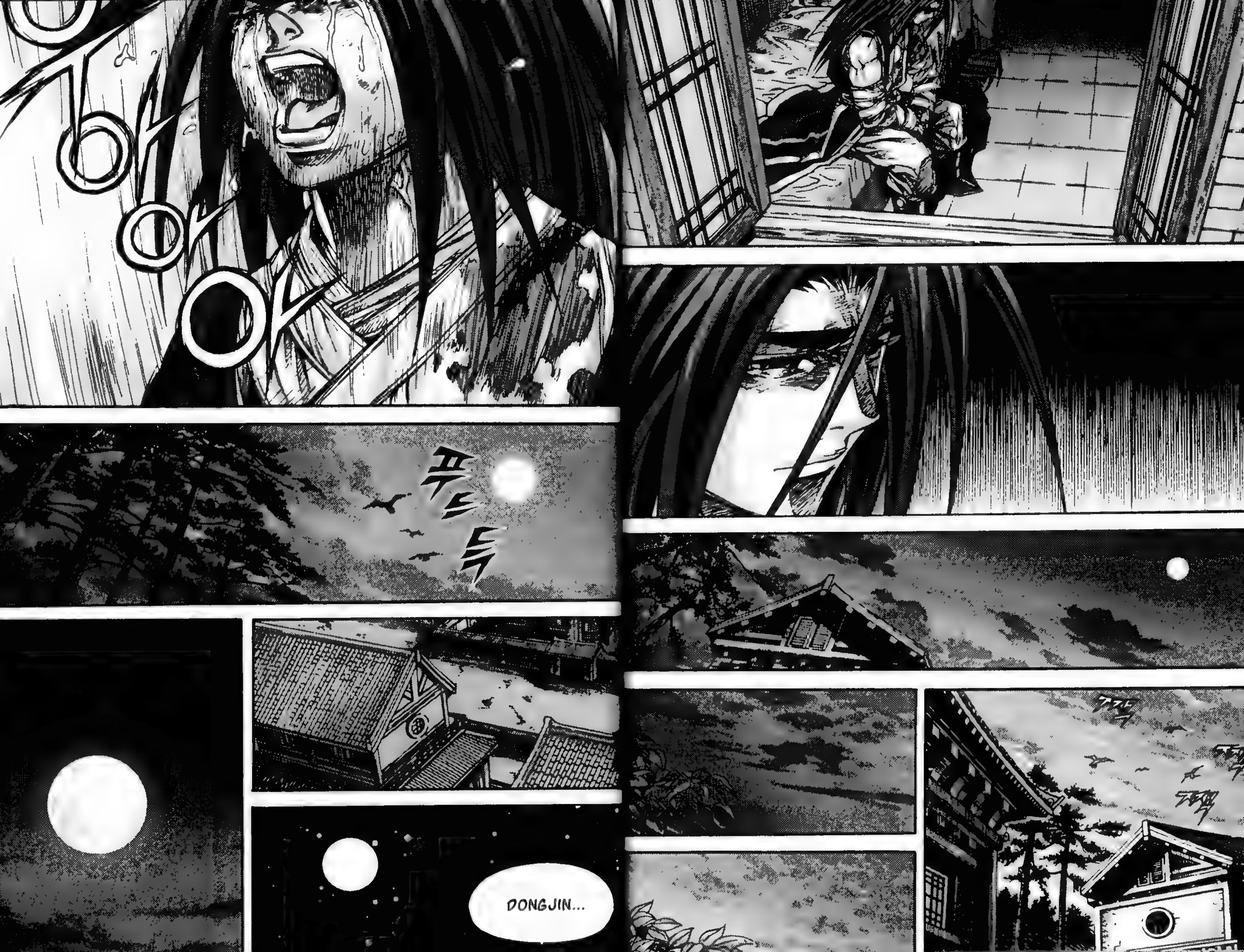

HUH!
JUST...AS I IMAGINED
N-NO...
...I COULDN'T DO IT...
...OLD...F-FRIEND...
NO...
NO!
GOOD MORNING!

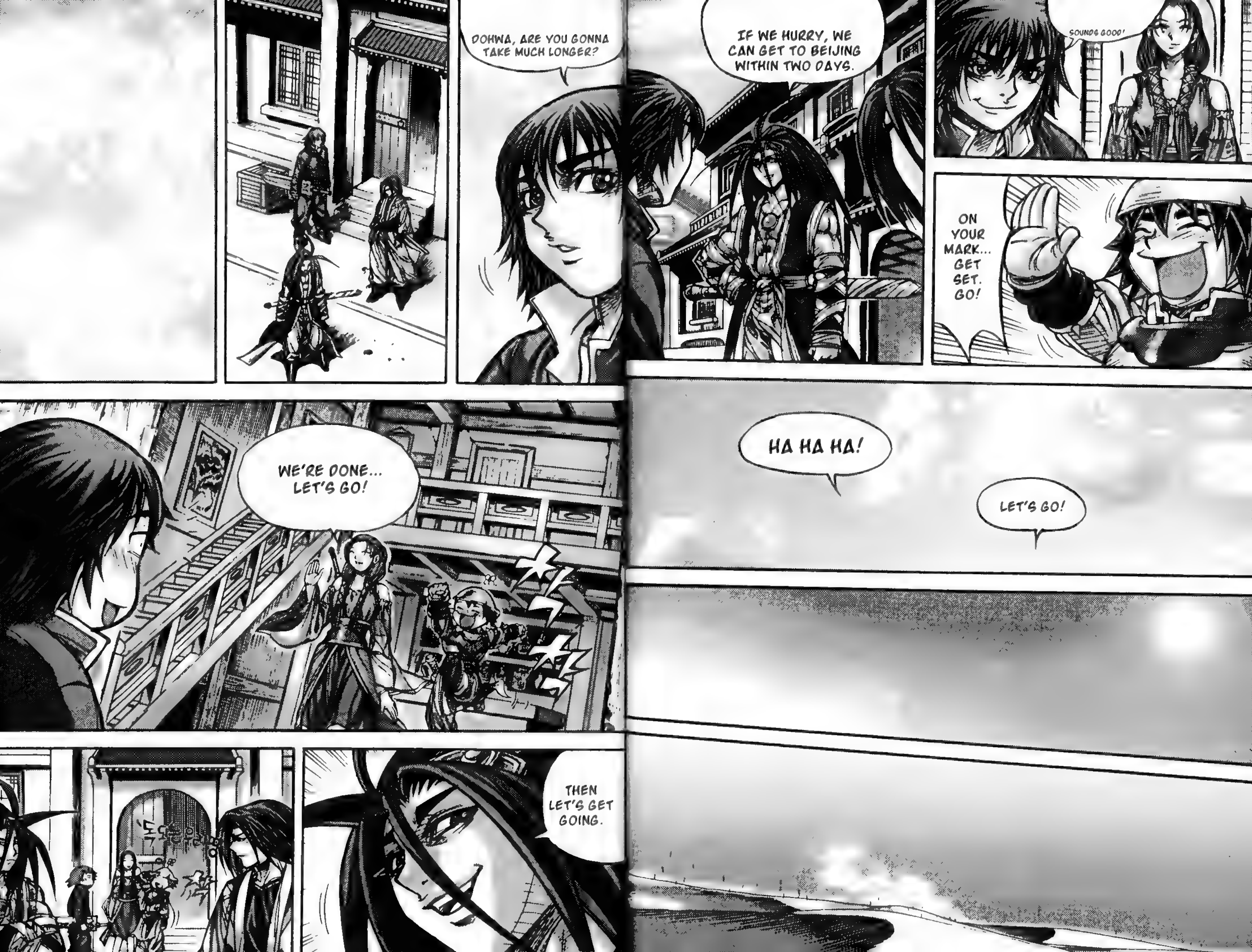

HA HA!
WHY ARE YOU UP SO EARLY?
YOU CAN SLEEP IN SOME MORE.
POO! IF I DID THAT, I'D GET IN TROUBLE BY THE MASTER.
HOO--!
I'M GOING TO BECOME AS DILIGENT AS YOU ARE, MAJEH.

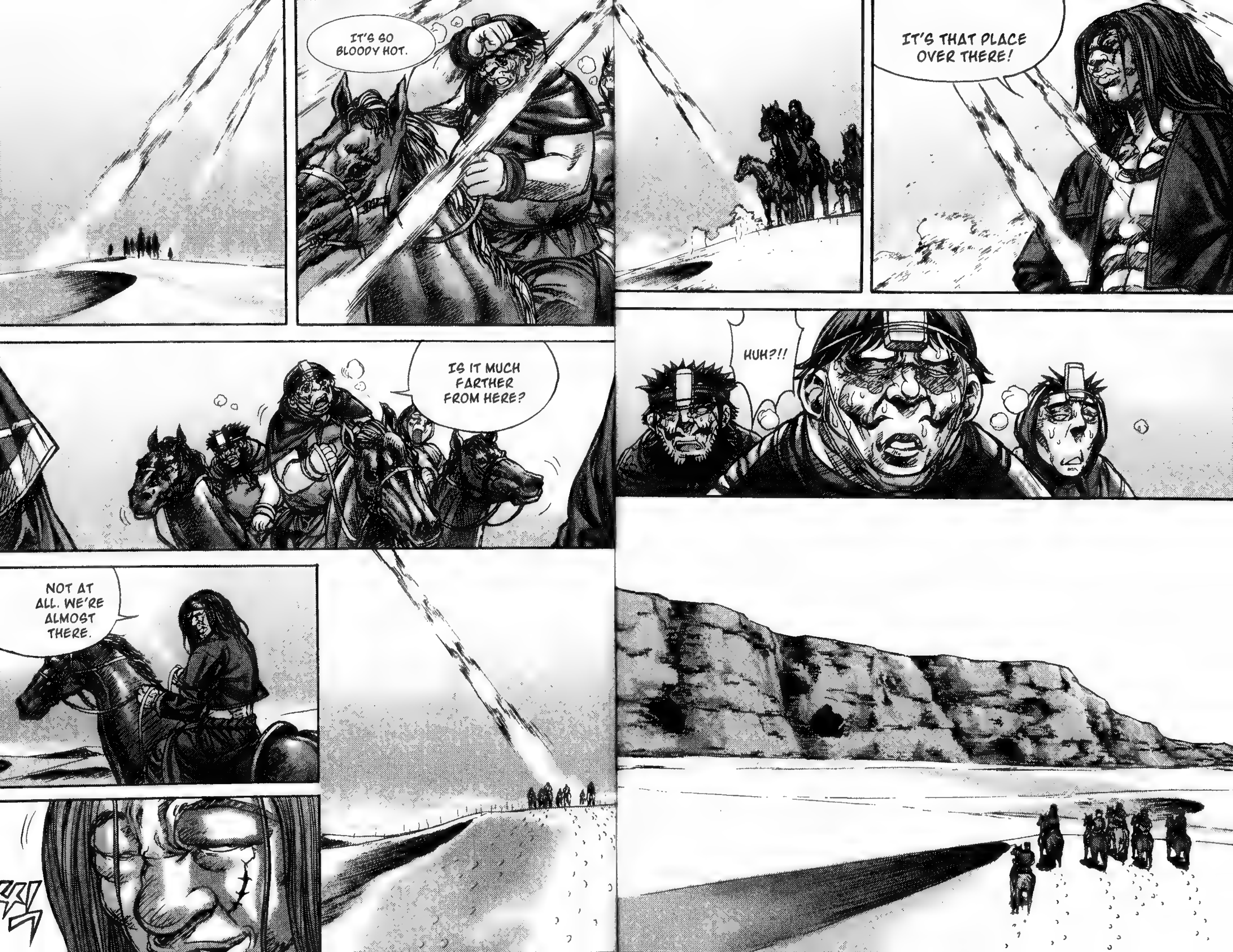

I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT, LI'L GUY.
POO...
I HAVE A NAME!
HA HA!
OKAY, DONGJIN...
DONG-JIN.

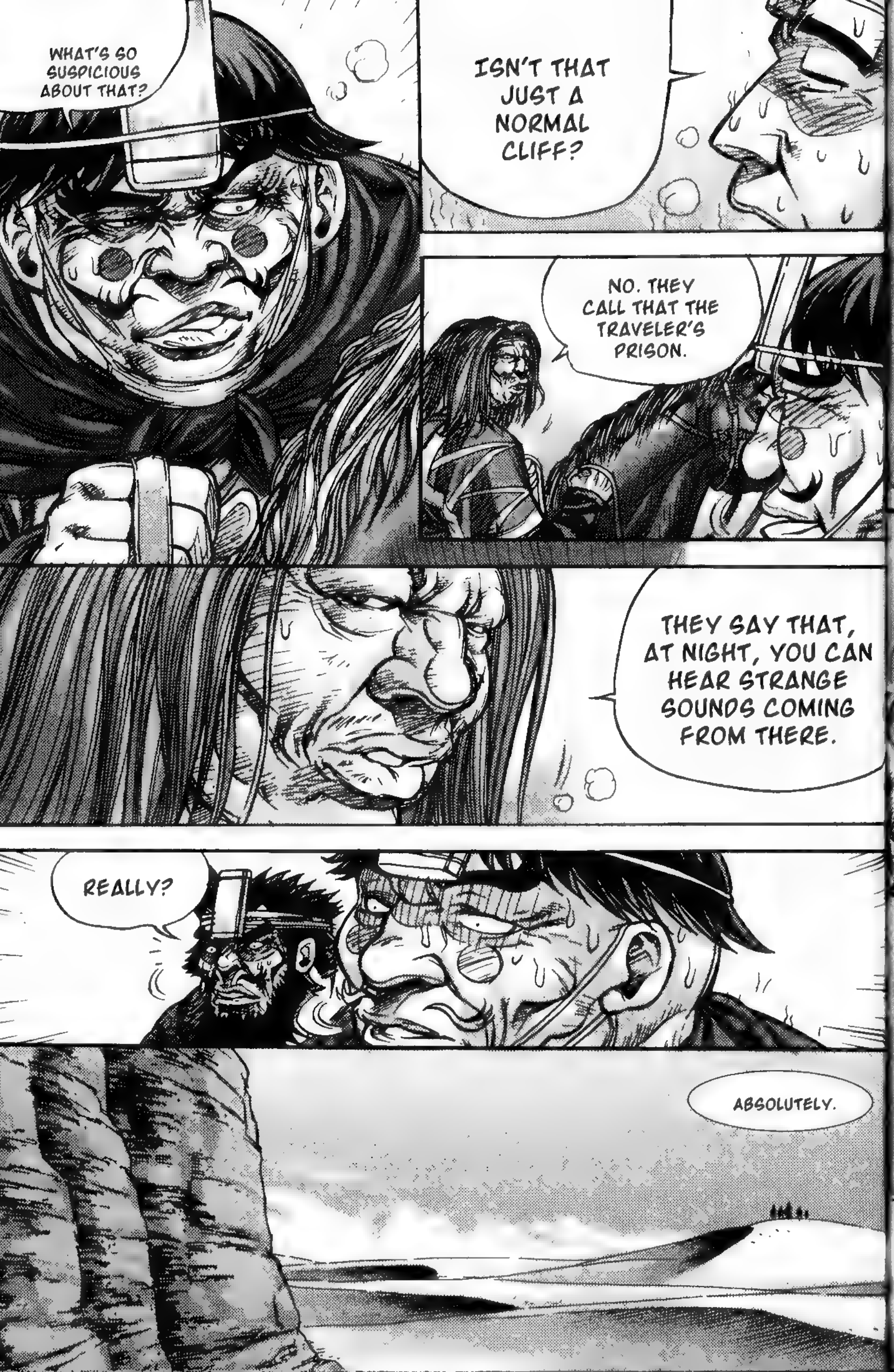

DONG...
...JIN...
HUFF! HUFF!
MA...JEH...

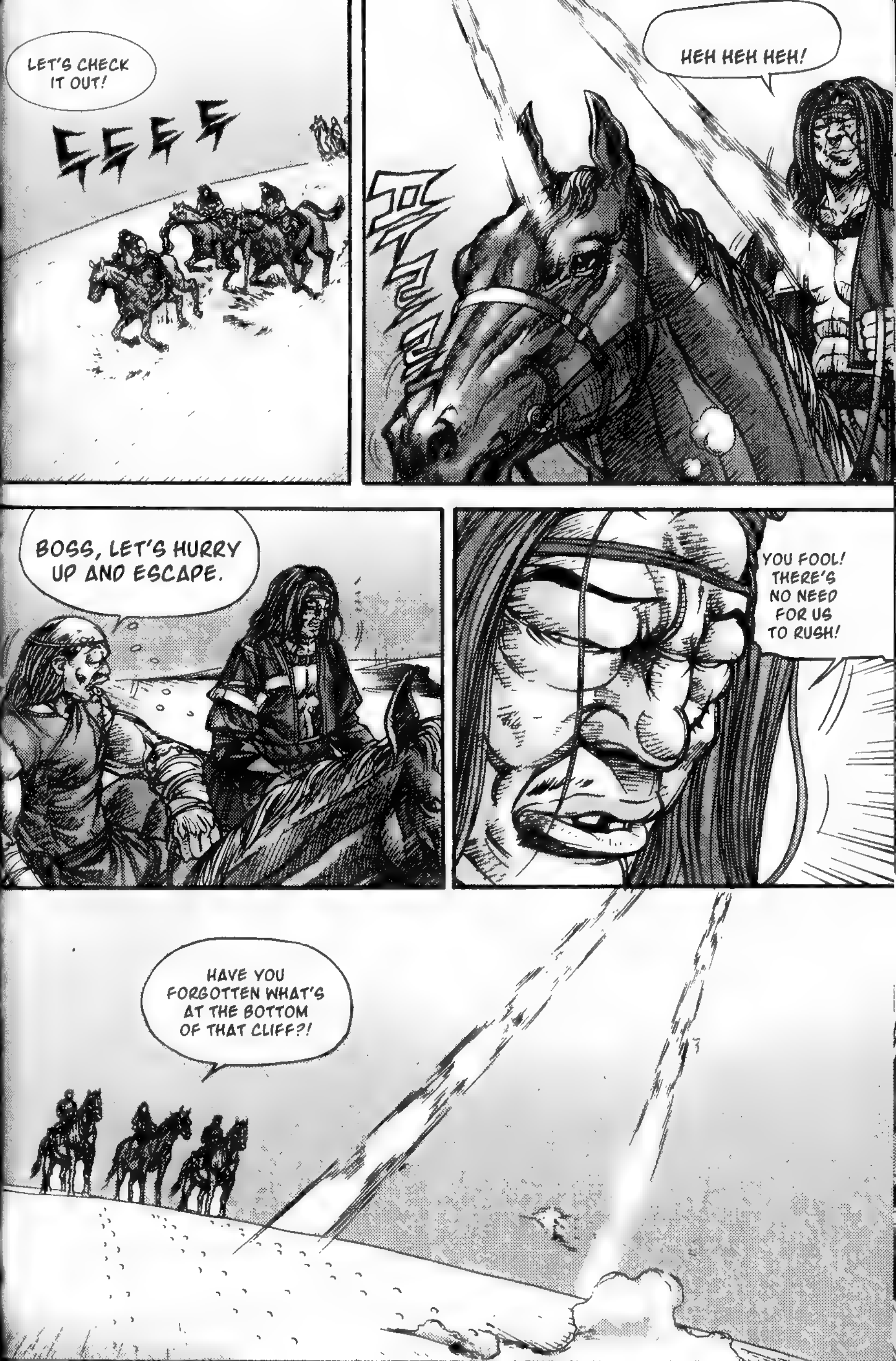

RUN... AWAY...
DON... DONGJIN!
DONGJIN!

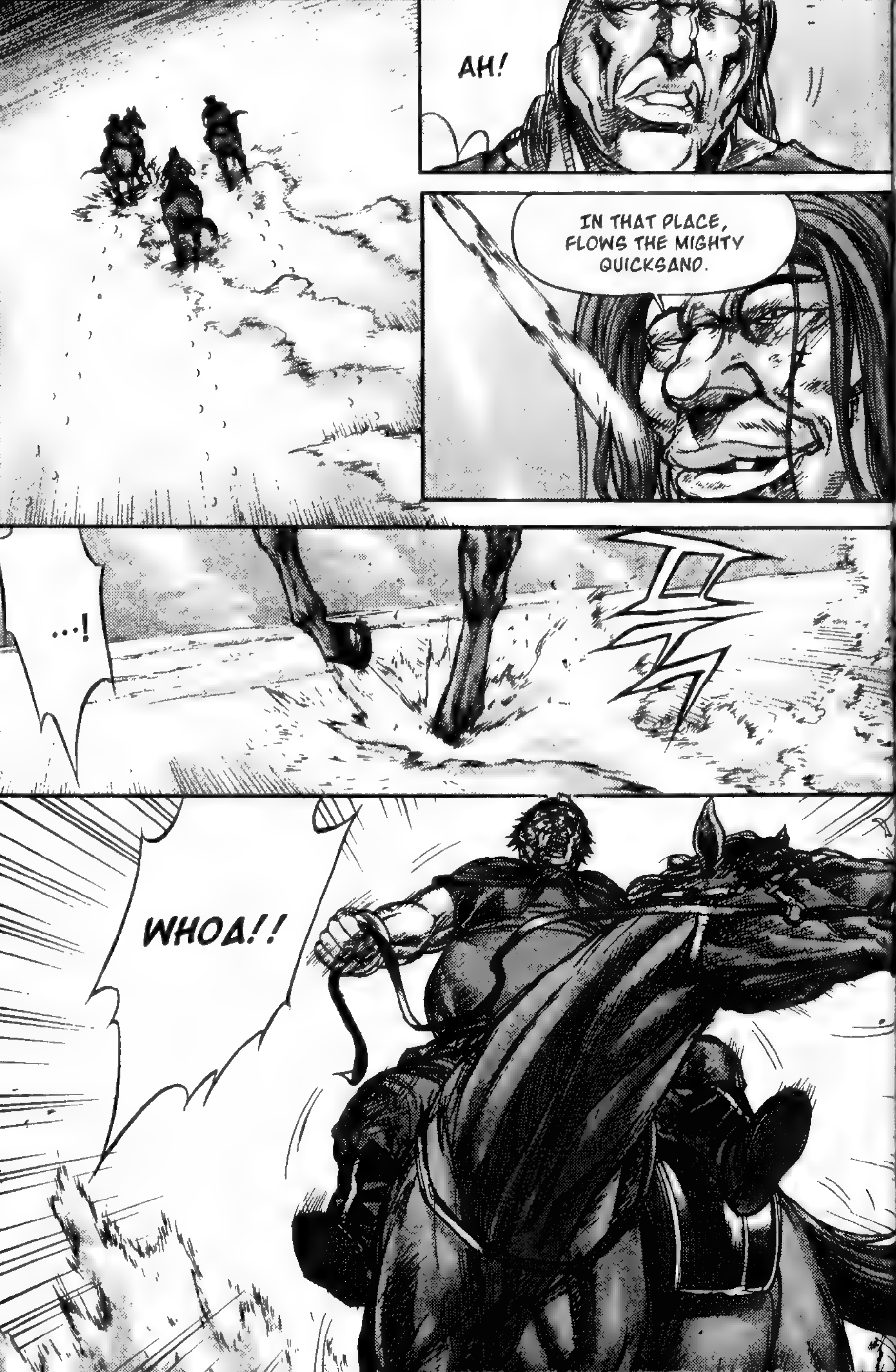

아아아
푸드득
DONGJIN...
깍
깩
깩


DOHWA, ARE YOU GONNA TAKE MUCH LONGER?
WE'RE DONE... LET'S GO!
THEN LET'S GET GOING.
IF WE HURRY, WE CAN GET TO BEIJING WITHIN TWO DAYS.
SOUNDS GOOD!
ON YOUR MARK... GET SET. GO!
HA HA HA!
LET'S GO!

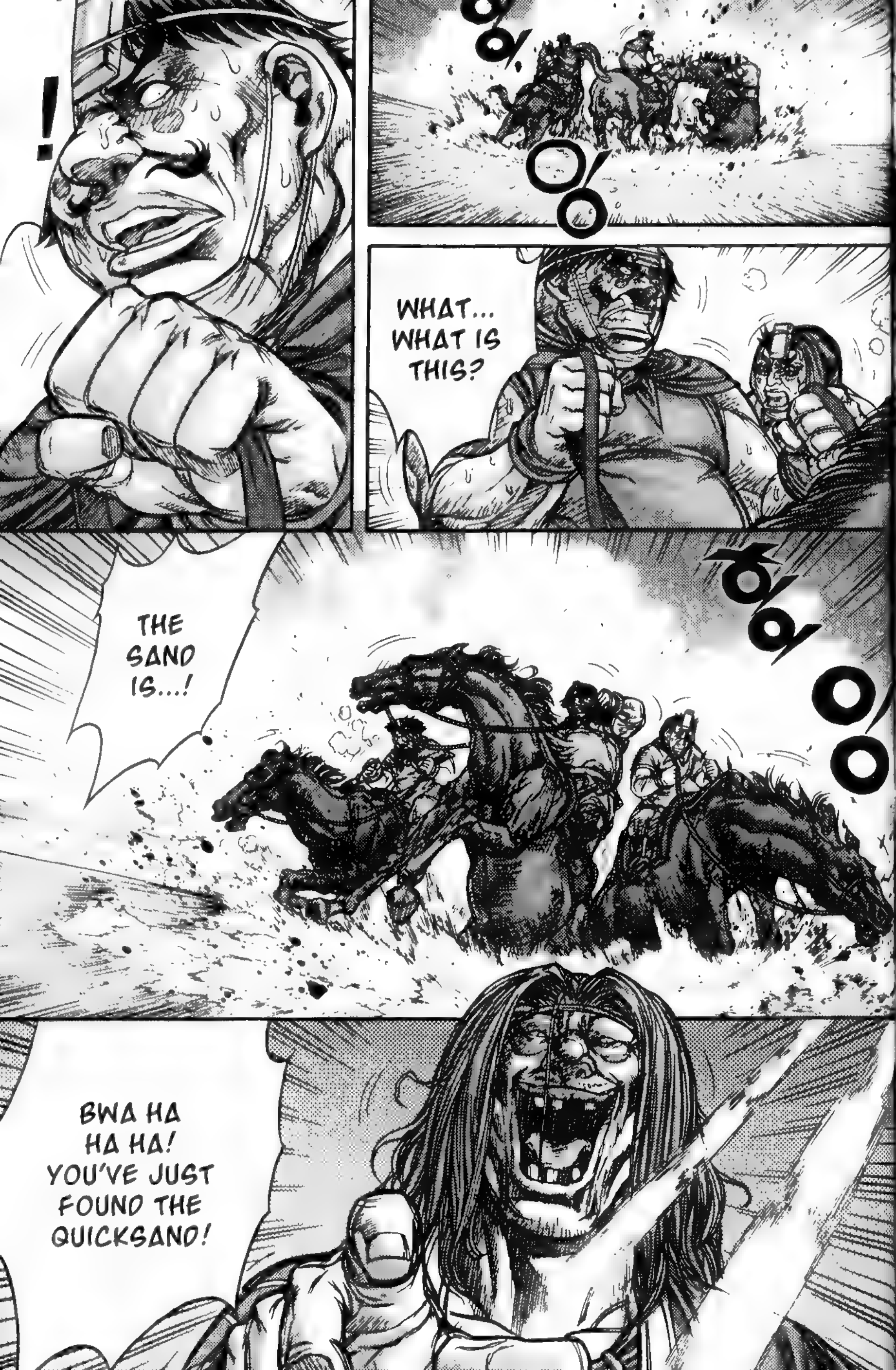

IT'S SO BLOODY HOT.
IS IT MUCH FARTHER FROM HERE?
NOT AT ALL. WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
IT'S THAT PLACE OVER THERE!
HUH?!!

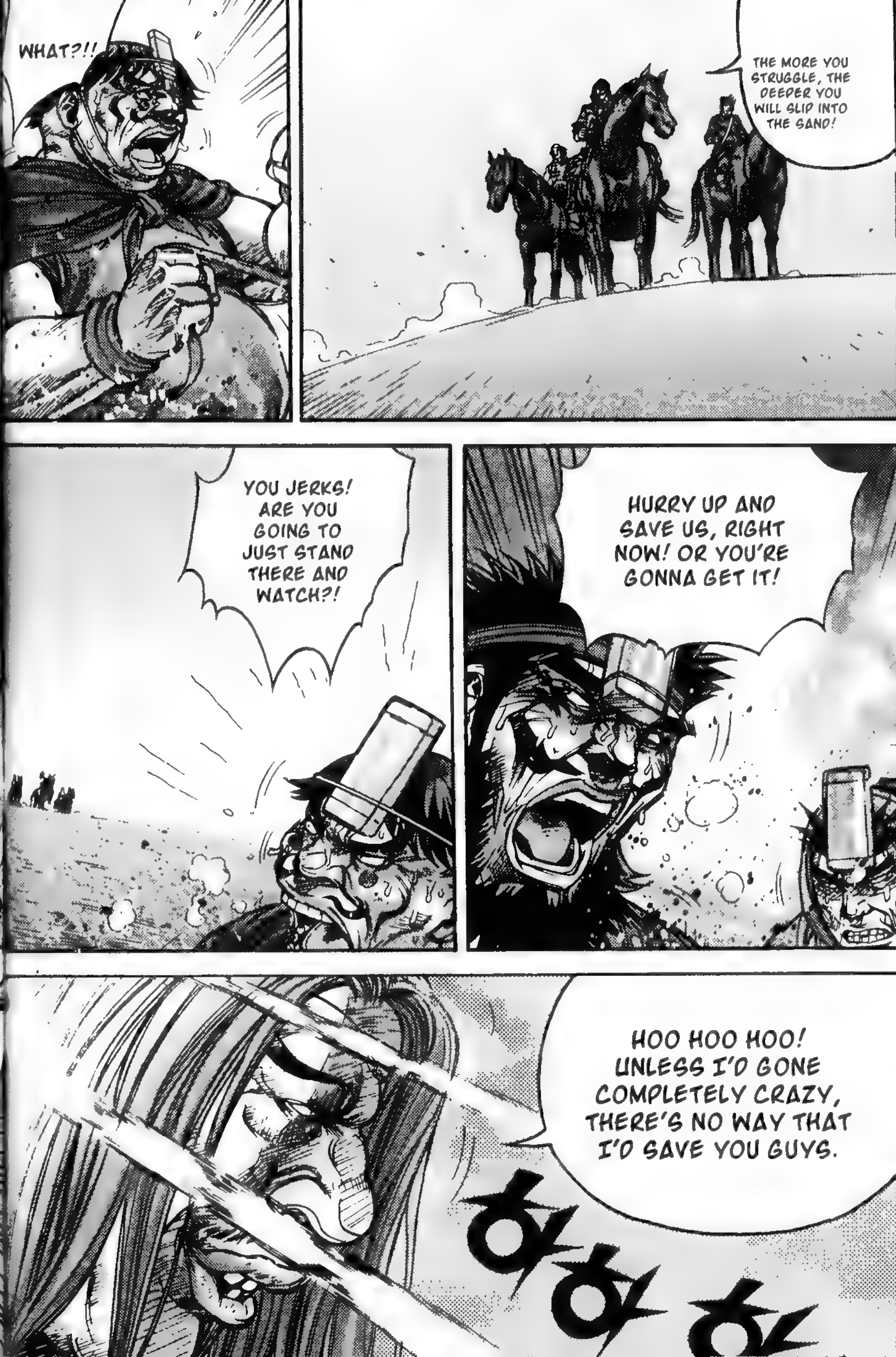

WHAT'S SO SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THAT?
ISN'T THAT JUST A NORMAL CLIFF?
NO. THEY CALL THAT THE TRAVELER'S PRISON.
THEY SAY THAT, AT NIGHT, YOU CAN HEAR STRANGE SOUNDS COMING FROM THERE.
REALLY?
ABSOLUTELY.

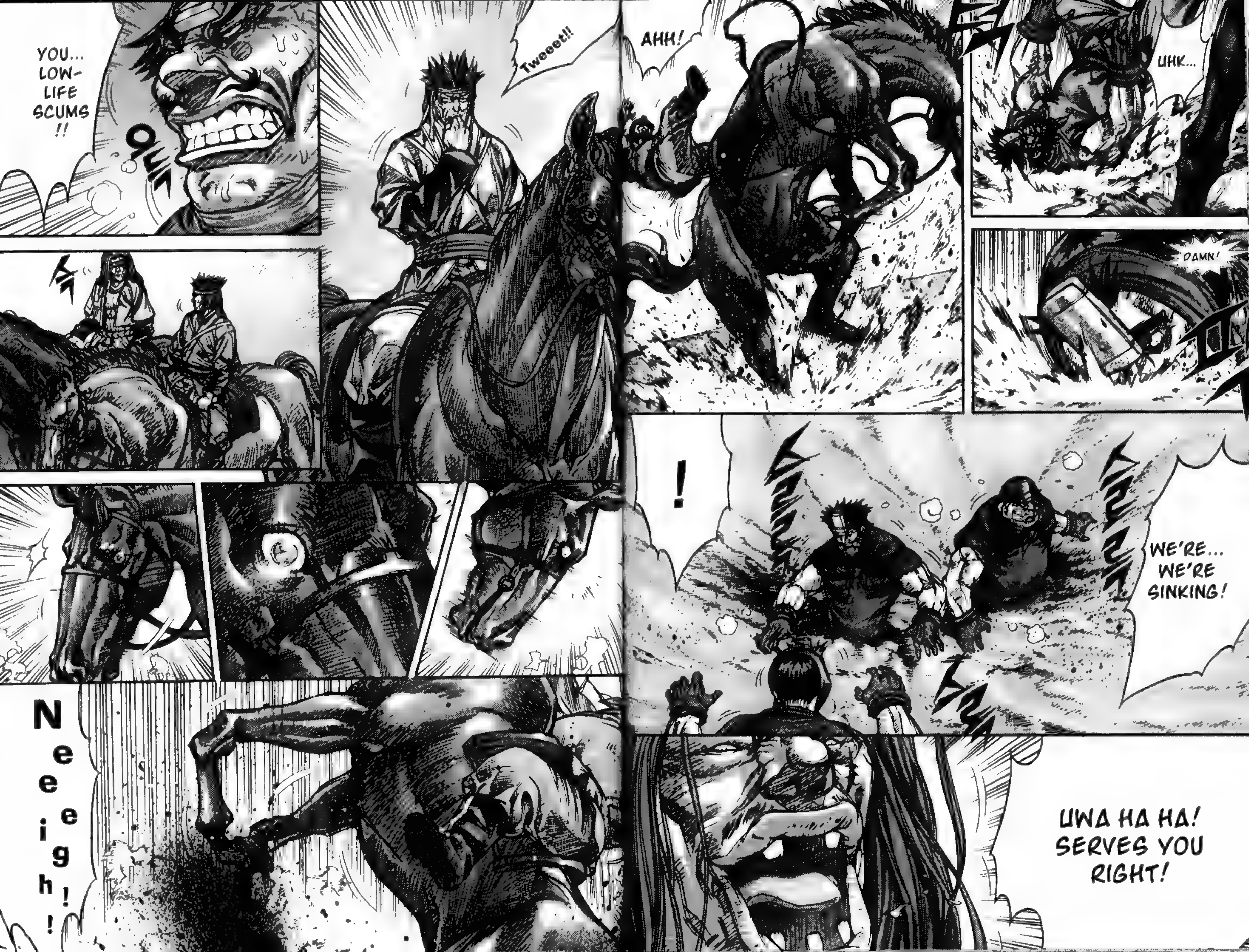

LET'S CHECK IT OUT!
HEH HEH HEH!
BOSS, LET'S HURRY UP AND ESCAPE.
YOU FOOL! THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO RUSH!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHAT'S AT THE BOTTOM OF THAT CLIFF?!

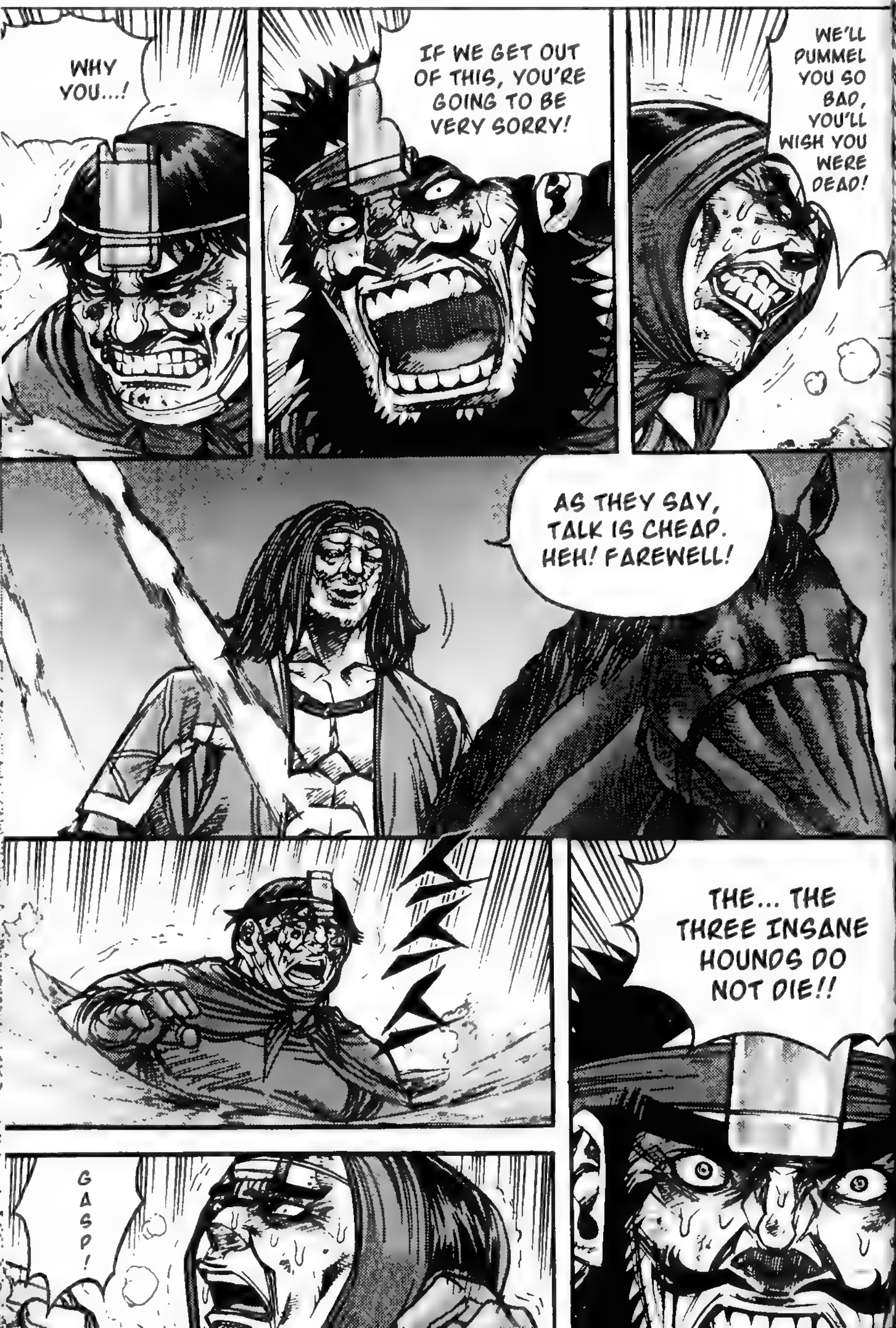

AH!
IN THAT PLACE, FLOWS THE MIGHTY QUICKSAND.
...!
WHOA!!

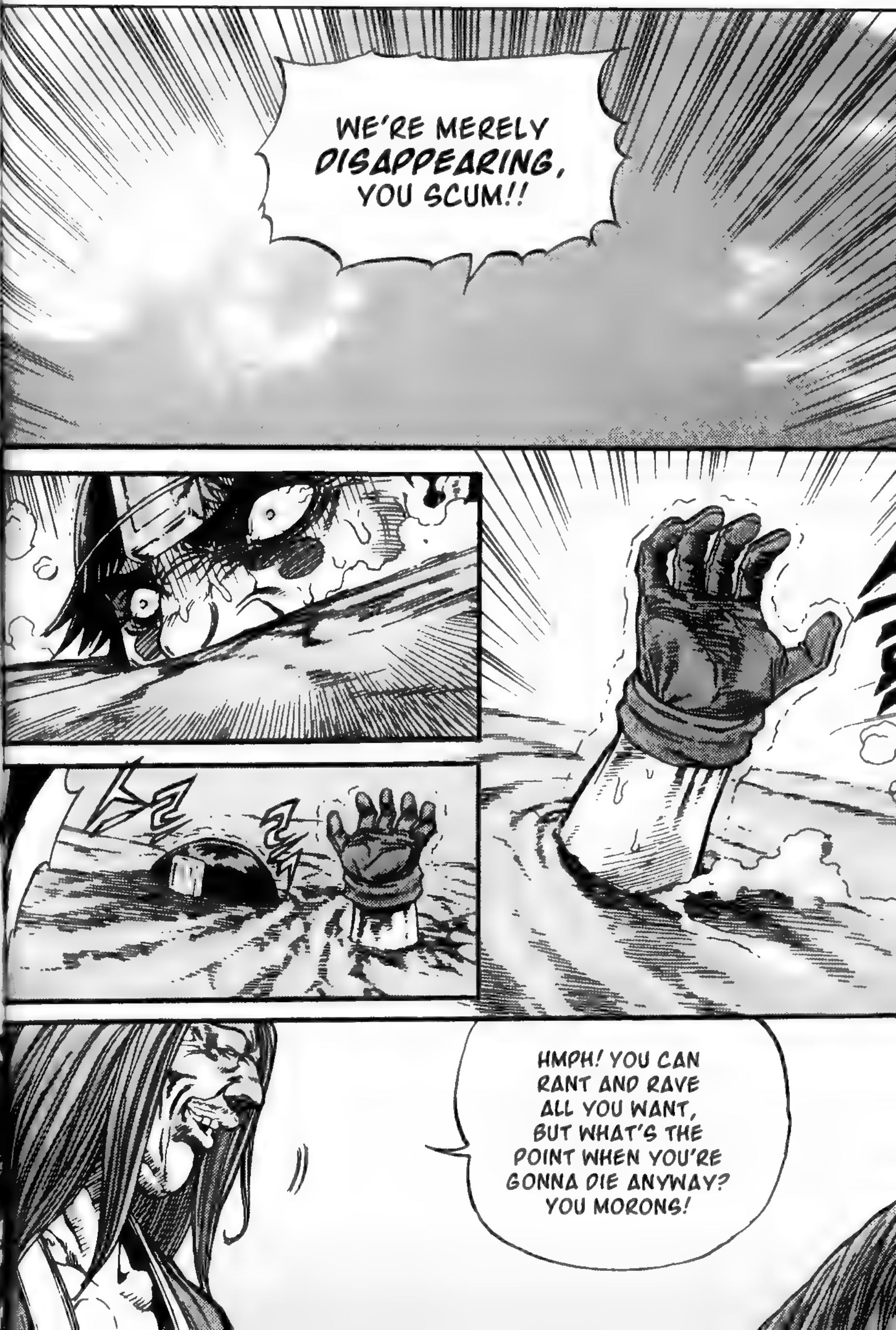
KING HELL

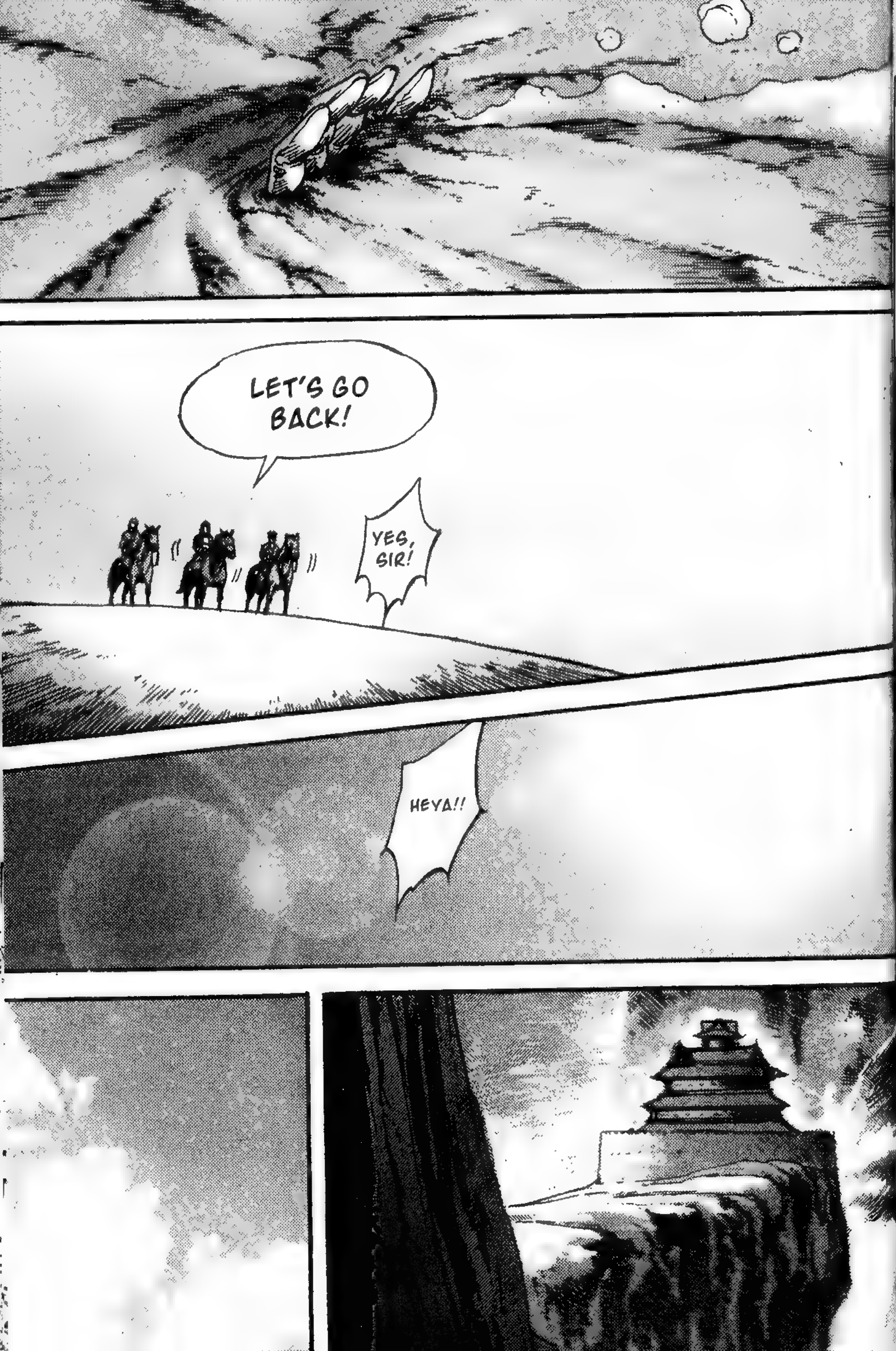

!
WHAT... WHAT IS THIS?
THE SAND IS...!
BWA HA HA HA! YOU'VE JUST FOUND THE QUICKSAND!

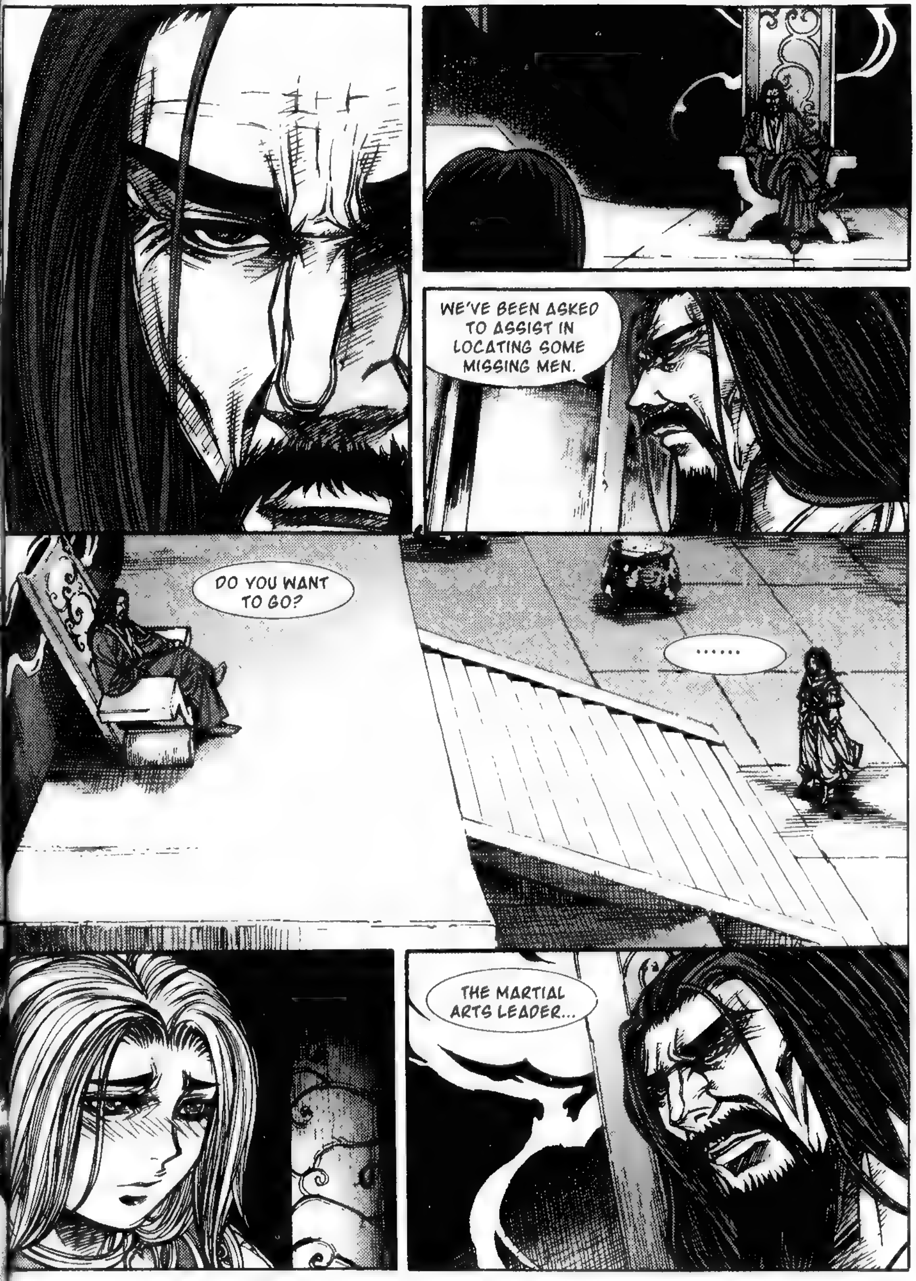

WHAT?!!
THE MORE YOU STRUGGLE, THE DEEPER YOU WILL SLIP INTO THE SAND!
YOU JERKS! ARE YOU GOING TO JUST STAND THERE AND WATCH?!
HURRY UP AND SAVE US, RIGHT NOW! OR YOU'RE GONNA GET IT!
HOO HOO HOO! UNLESS I'D GONE COMPLETELY CRAZY, THERE'S NO WAY THAT I'D SAVE YOU GUYS.

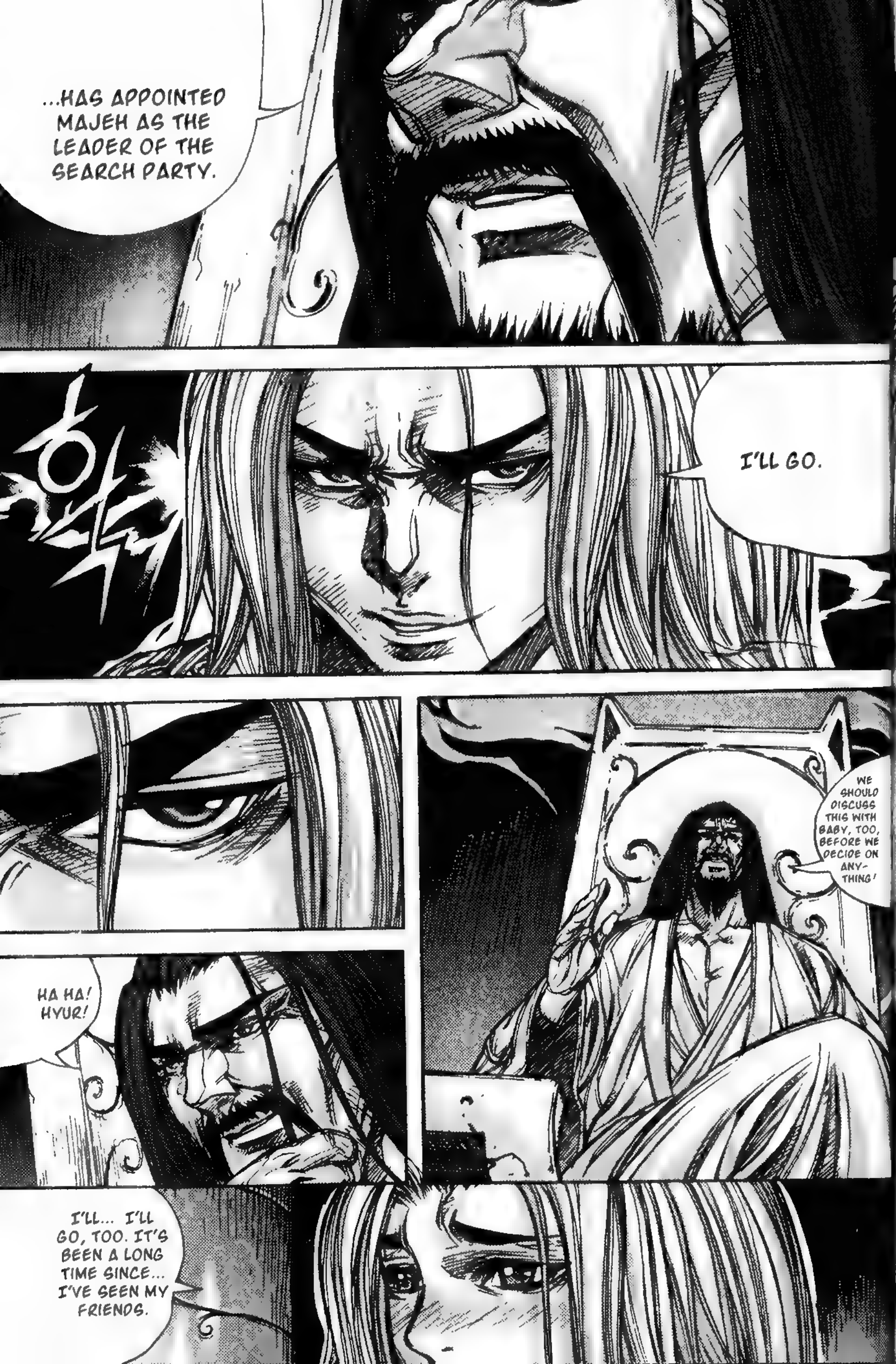

YOU... LOW-LIFE SCUMS!!
Tweeet!!
Neeeigh!
AHH!
UHK...
DAMN!
!
WE'RE... WE'RE SINKING!
UWA HA HA! SERVES YOU RIGHT!

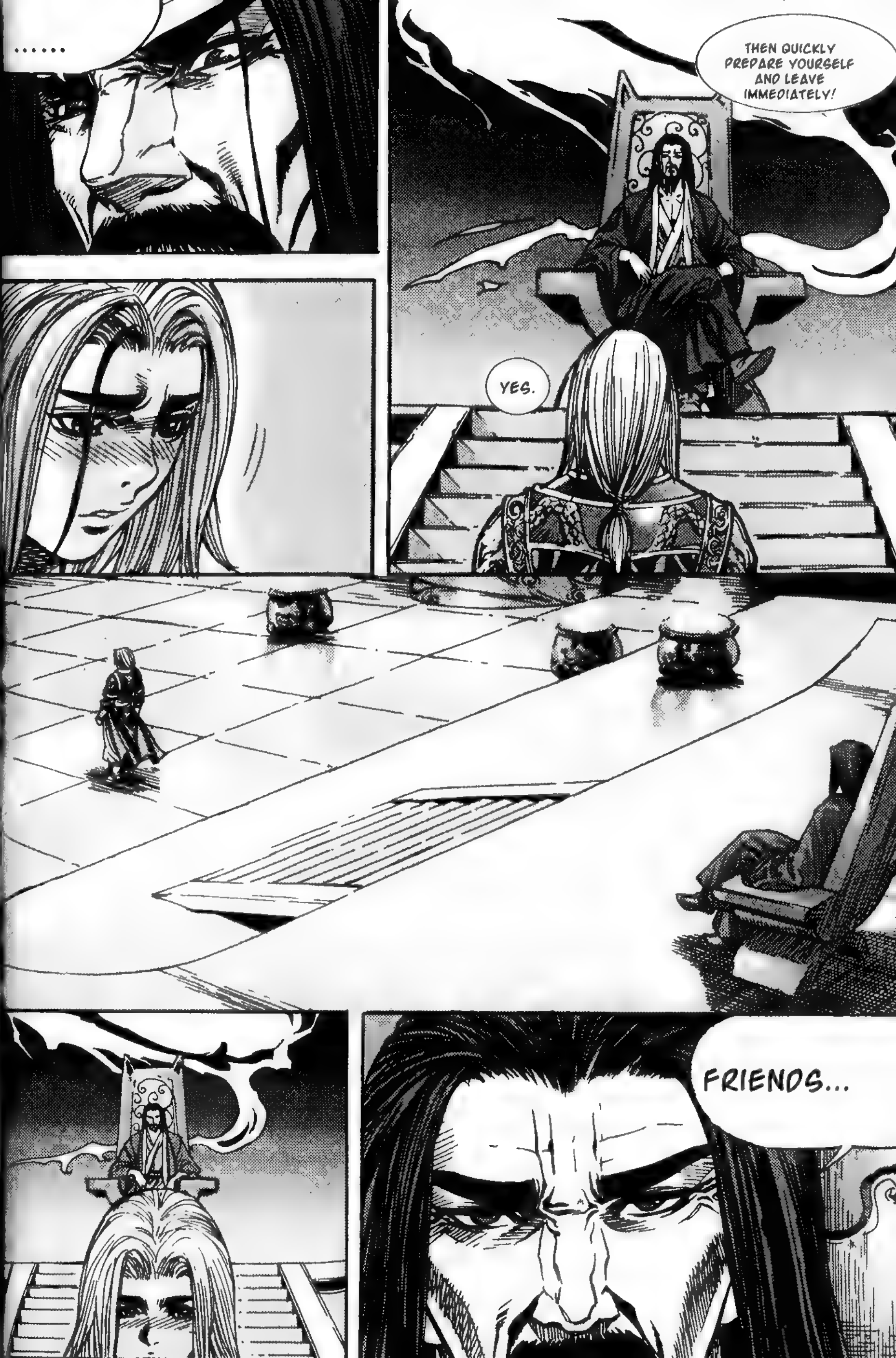

WHY YOU...!
IF WE GET OUT OF THIS, YOU'RE GOING TO BE VERY SORRY!
WE'LL PUMMEL YOU SO BAD, YOU'LL WISH YOU WERE DEAD!
AS THEY SAY, TALK IS CHEAP. HEH! FAREWELL!
THE... THE THREE INSANE HOUNDS DO NOT DIE!!
GASP!

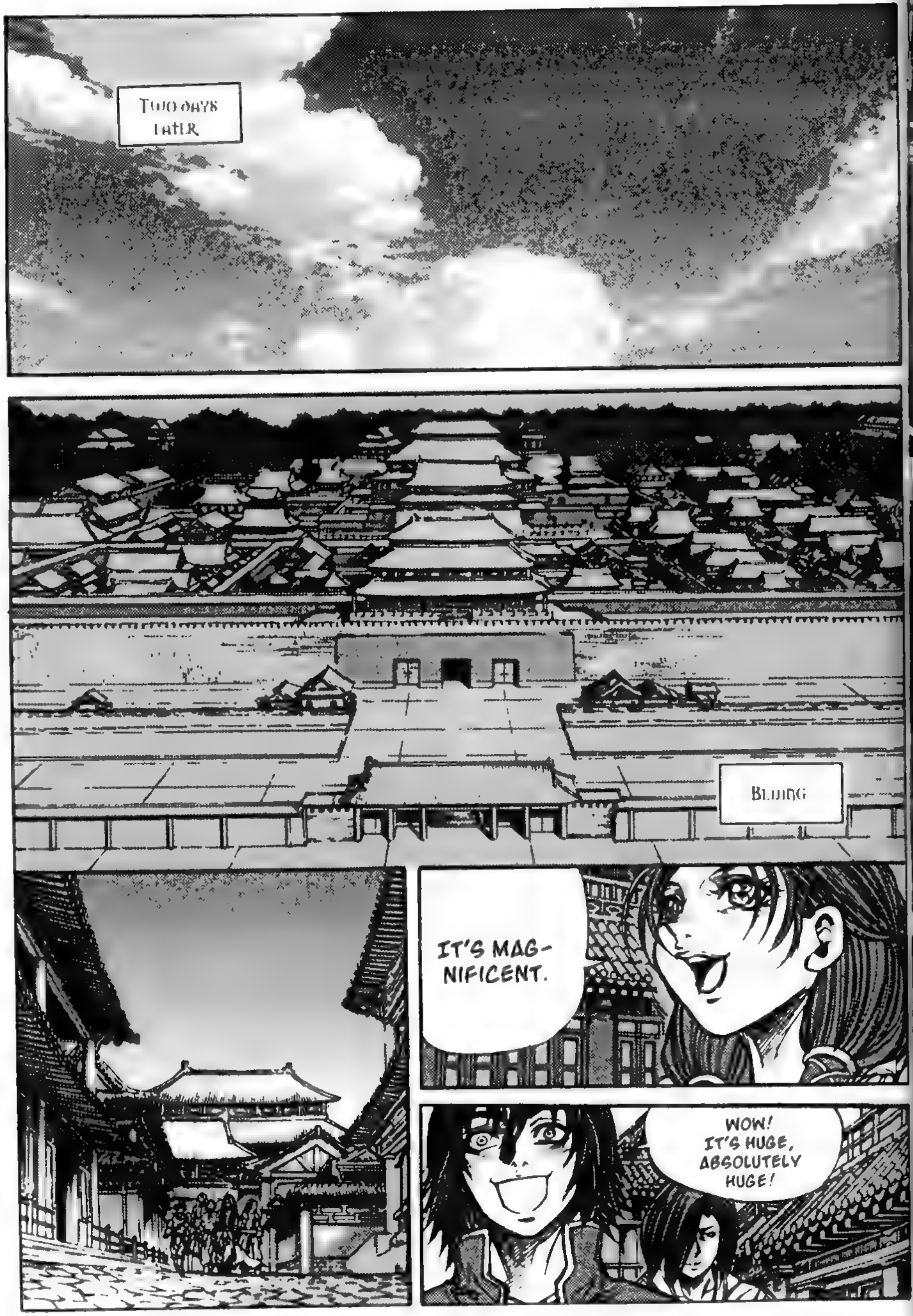

WE'RE MERELY *DISAPPEARING*, YOU SCUM!!
HMPH! YOU CAN RANT AND RAVE ALL YOU WANT, BUT WHAT'S THE POINT WHEN YOU'RE GONNA DIE ANYWAY? YOU MORONS!

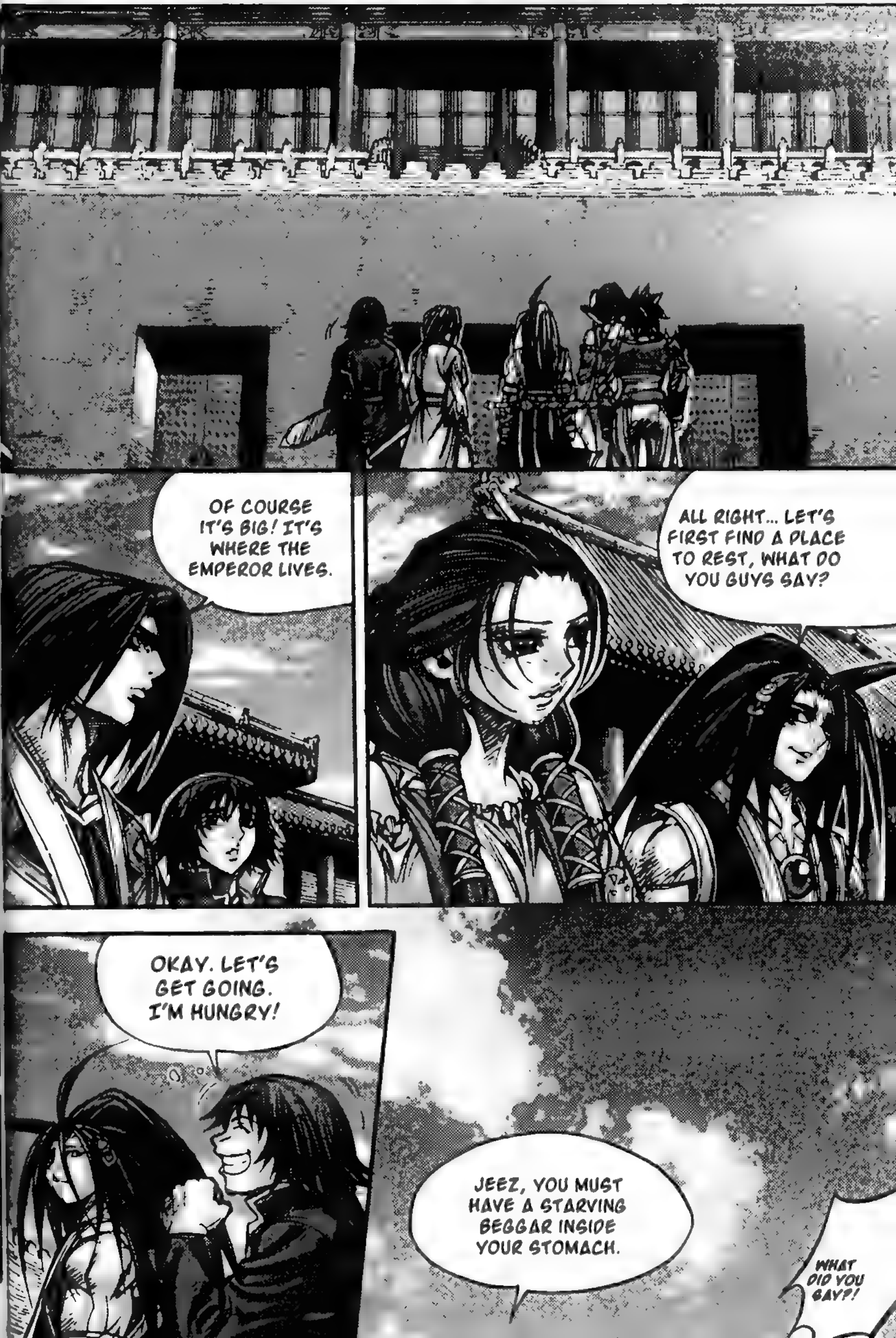

LET'S GO BACK!
YES, SIR!
HEYA!!

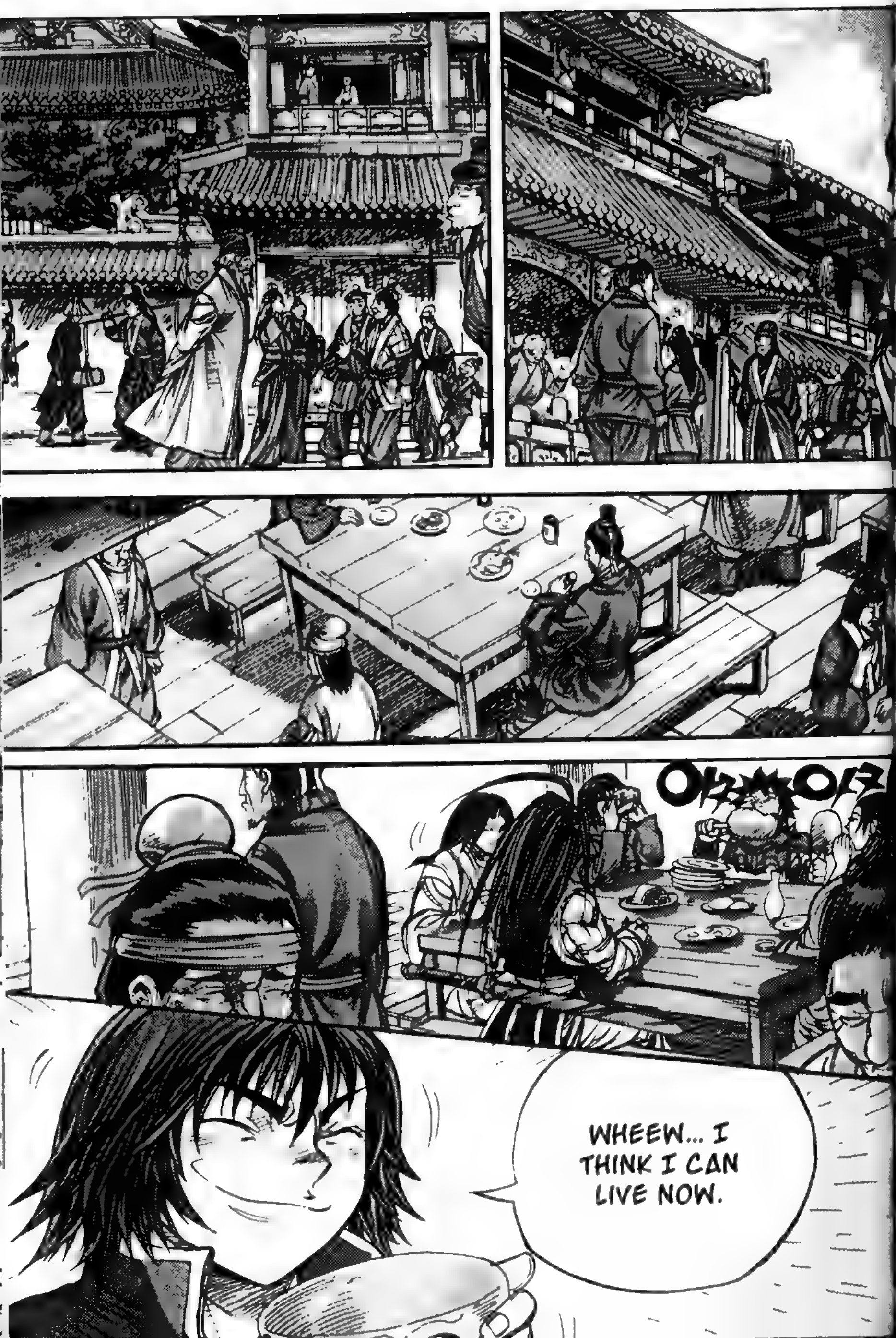

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ASSIST IN LOCATING SOME MISSING MEN.
DO YOU WANT TO GO?
......
THE MARTIAL ARTS LEADER...

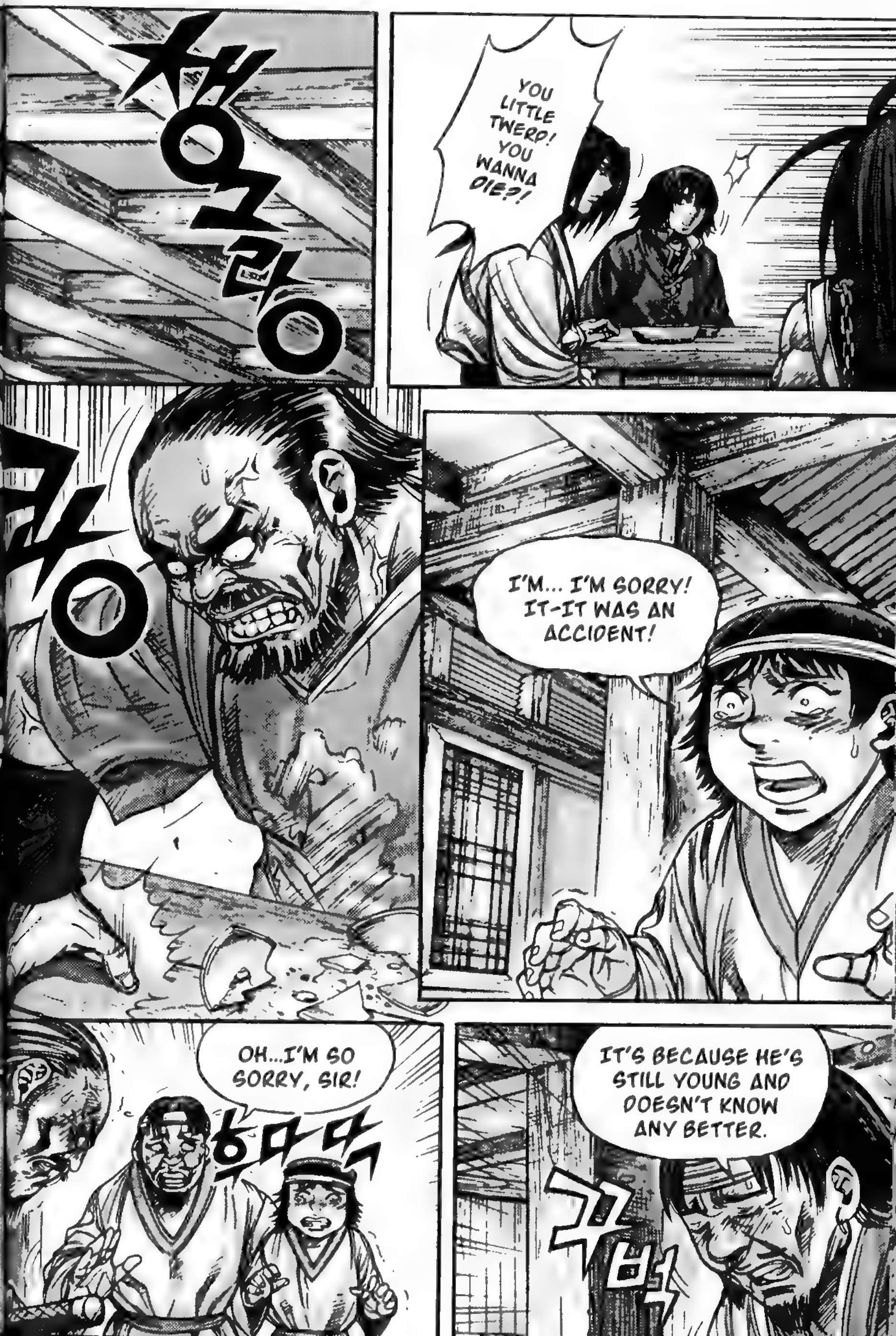

...HAS APPOINTED MAJEH AS THE LEADER OF THE SEARCH PARTY.
I'LL GO.
WE SHOULD DISCUSS THIS WITH BABY, TOO, BEFORE WE DECIDE ON ANYTHING!
HA HA! HYUR!
I'LL... I'LL GO, TOO. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE... I'VE SEEN MY FRIENDS.

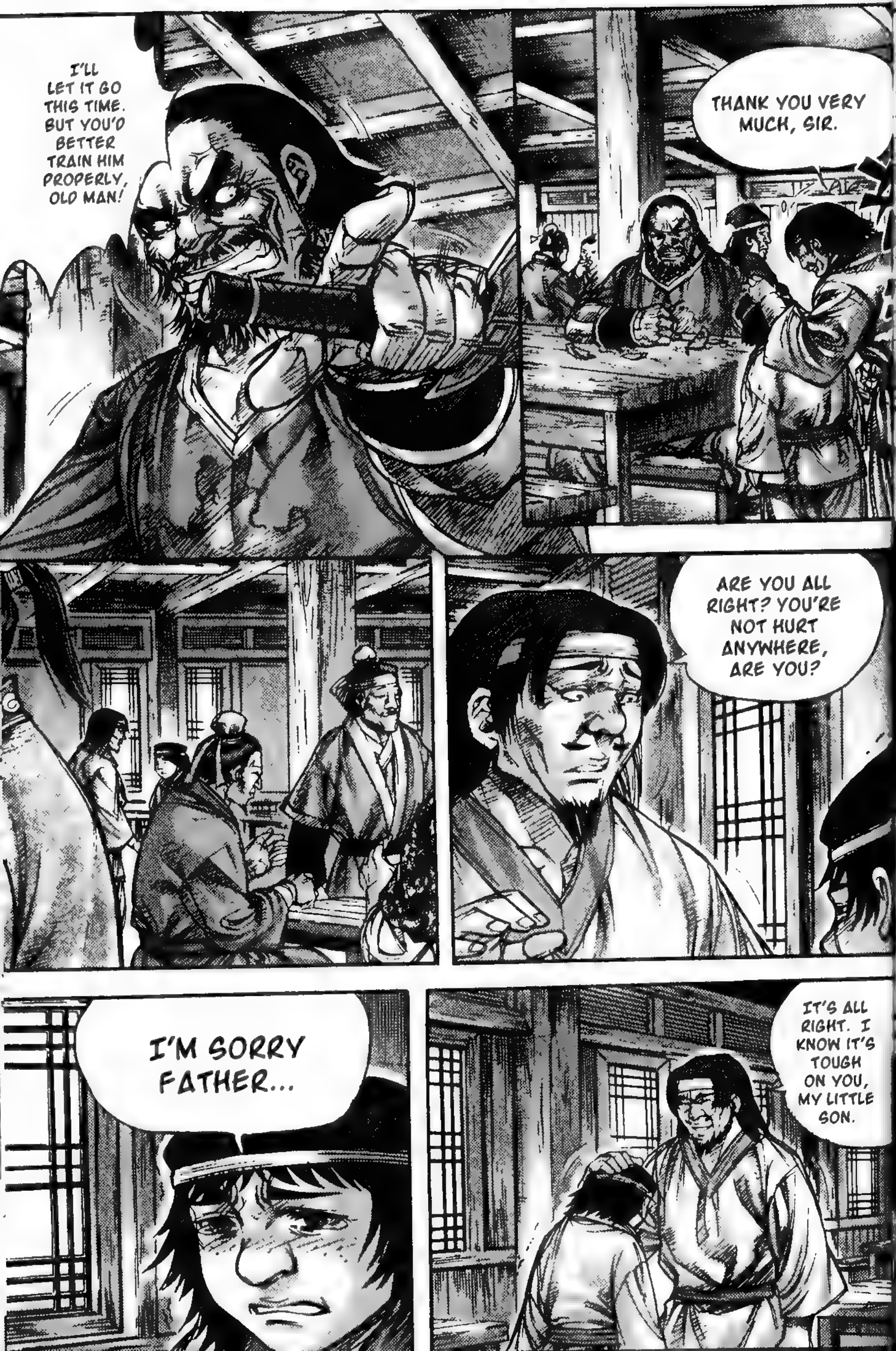

......
THEN QUICKLY PREPARE YOURSELF AND LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
YES.
FRIENDS...

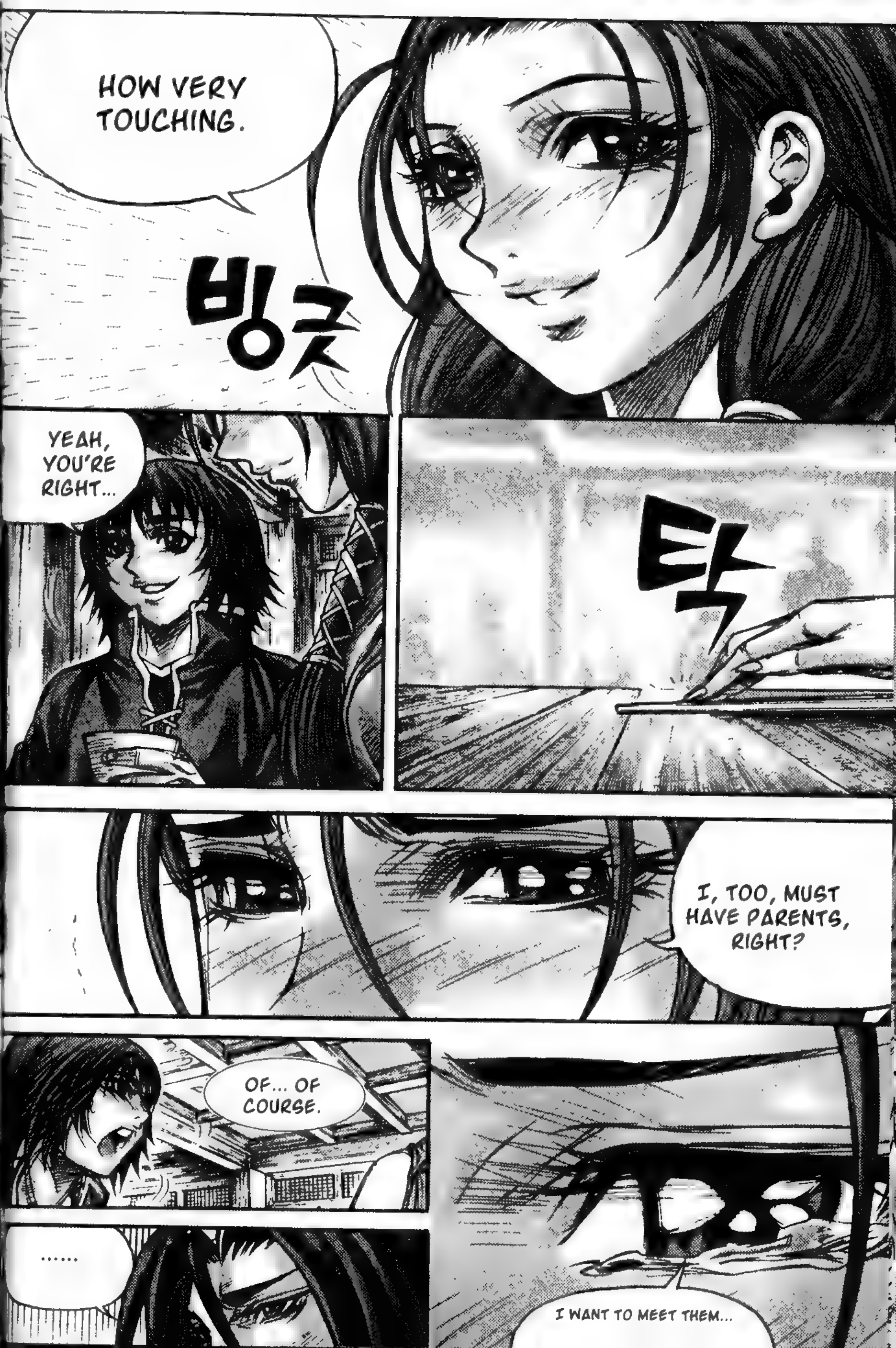

TWO DAYS LATER
BEIJING
IT'S MAG-NIFICENT.
WOW! IT'S HUGE, ABSOLUTELY HUGE!

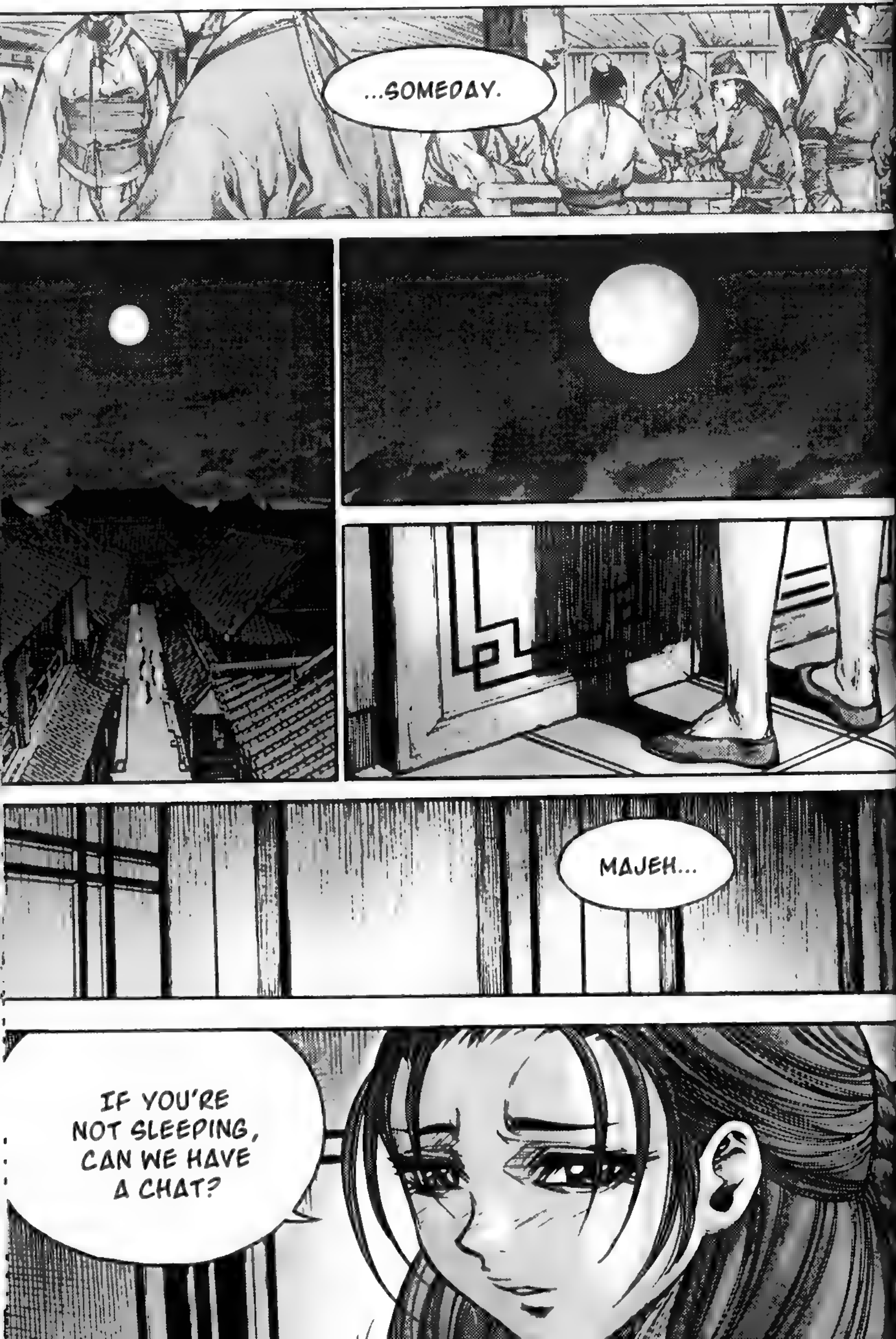

OF COURSE IT'S BIG! IT'S WHERE THE EMPEROR LIVES.
ALL RIGHT... LET'S FIRST FIND A PLACE TO REST, WHAT DO YOU GUYS SAY?
OKAY. LET'S GET GOING. I'M HUNGRY!
JEEZ, YOU MUST HAVE A STARVING BEGGAR INSIDE YOUR STOMACH.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

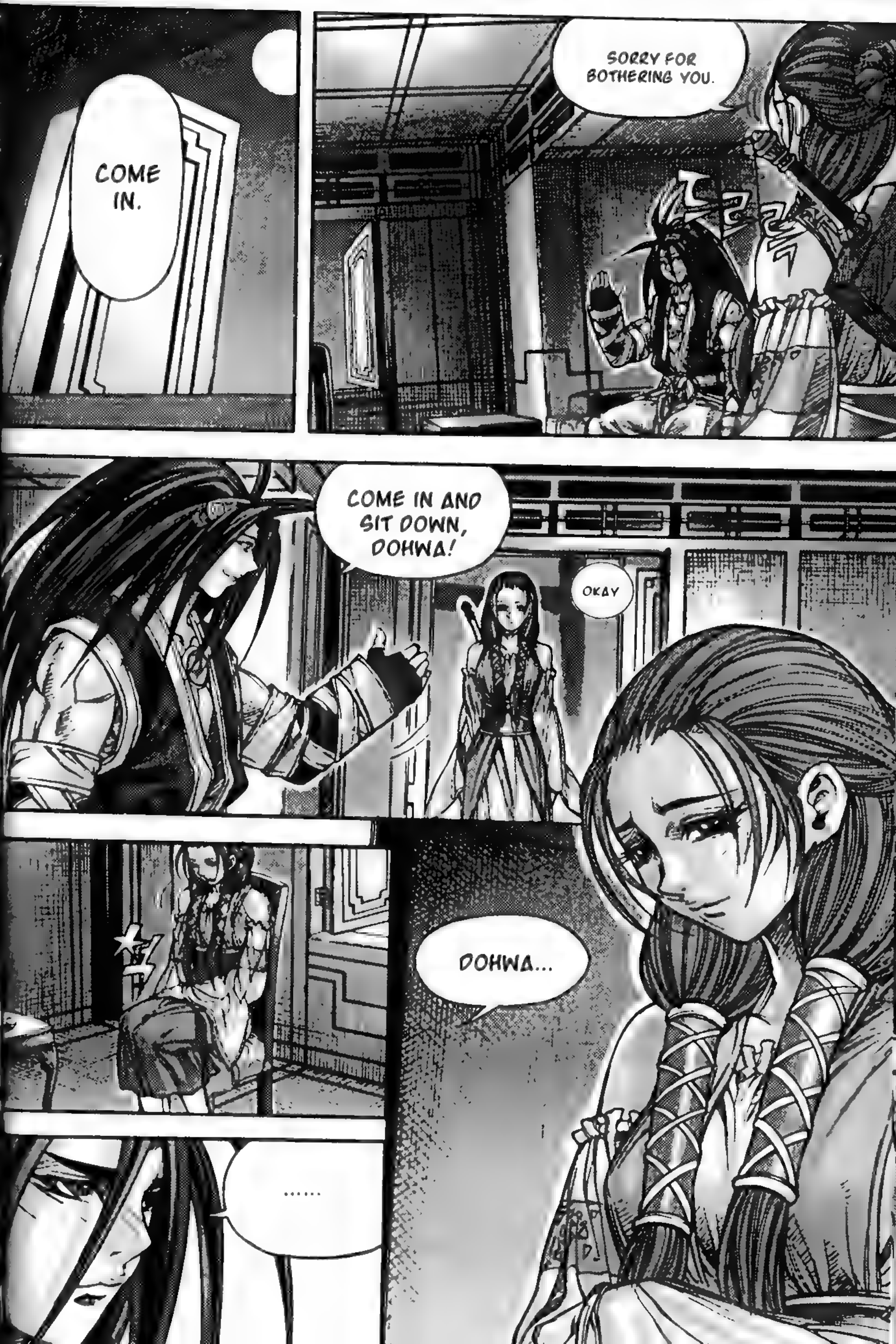

아작아작
WHEEW... I THINK I CAN LIVE NOW.

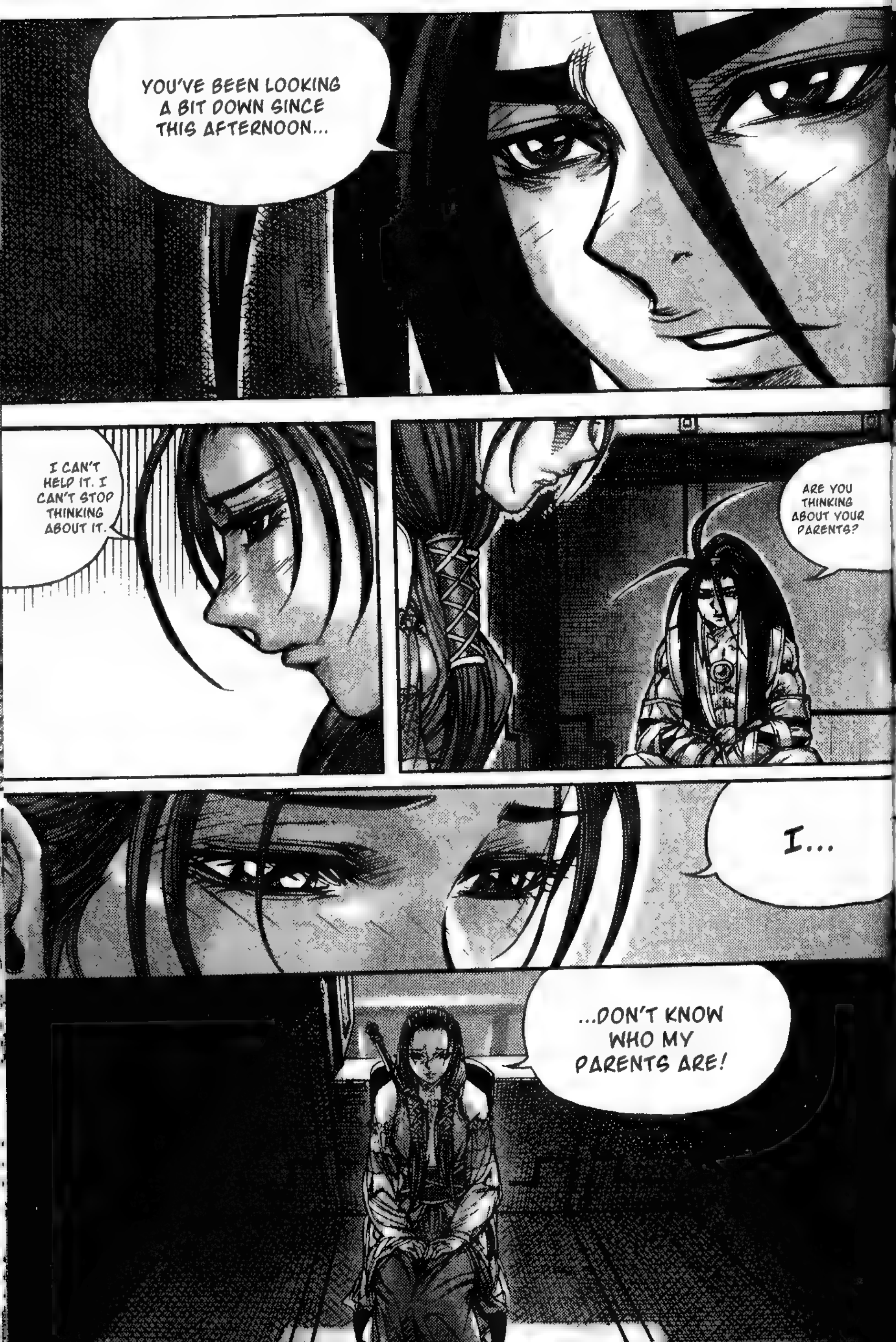

챙그랑
YOU LITTLE TWERP! YOU WANNA DIE?!
콰앙
I'M... I'M SORRY! IT-IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
OH...I'M SO SORRY, SIR!
후다닥
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S STILL YOUNG AND DOESN'T KNOW ANY BETTER.
꾸벅

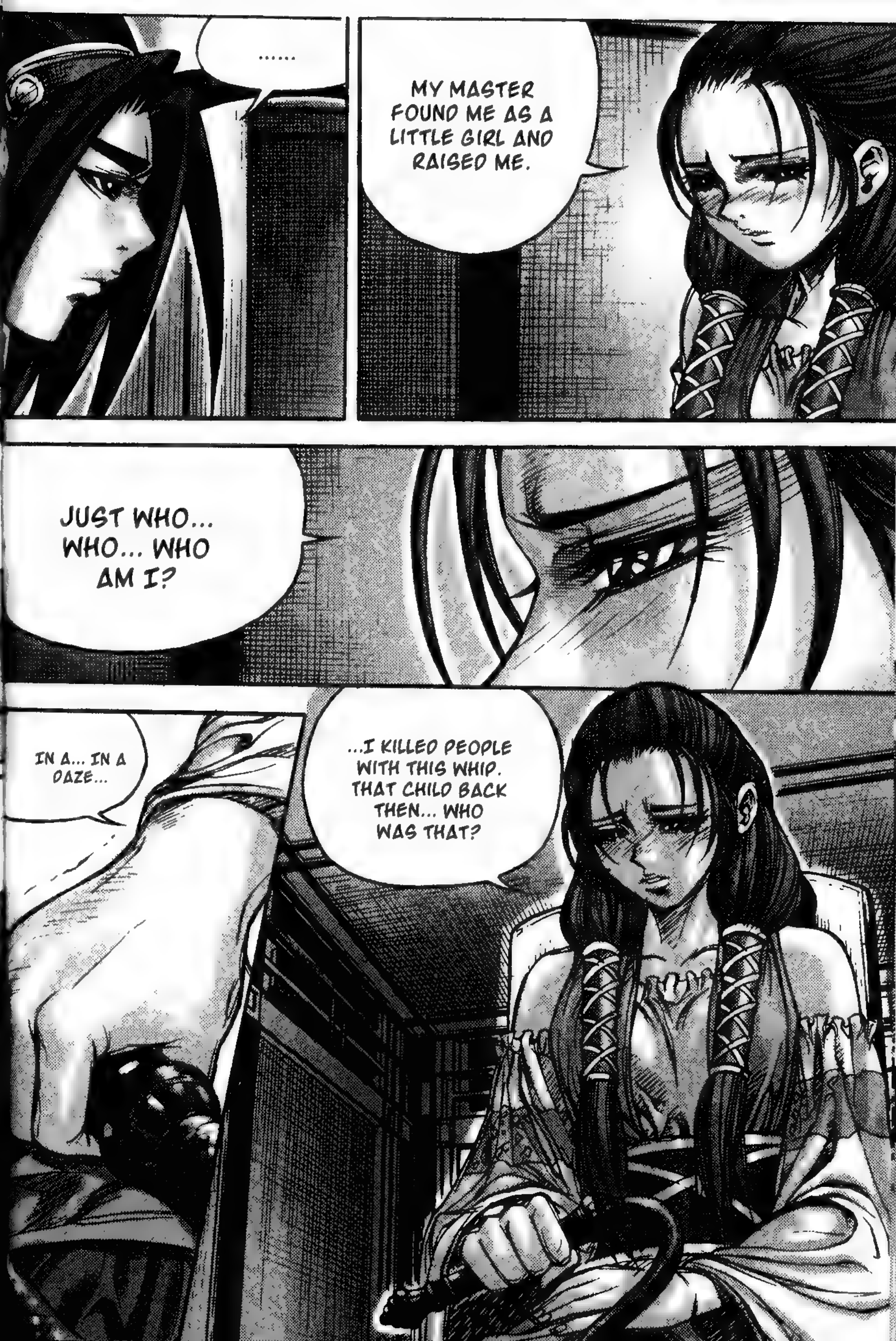

I'LL LET IT GO THIS TIME. BUT YOU'D BETTER TRAIN HIM PROPERLY, OLD MAN!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU'RE NOT HURT ANYWHERE, ARE YOU?
I'M SORRY FATHER...
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I KNOW IT'S TOUGH ON YOU, MY LITTLE SON.

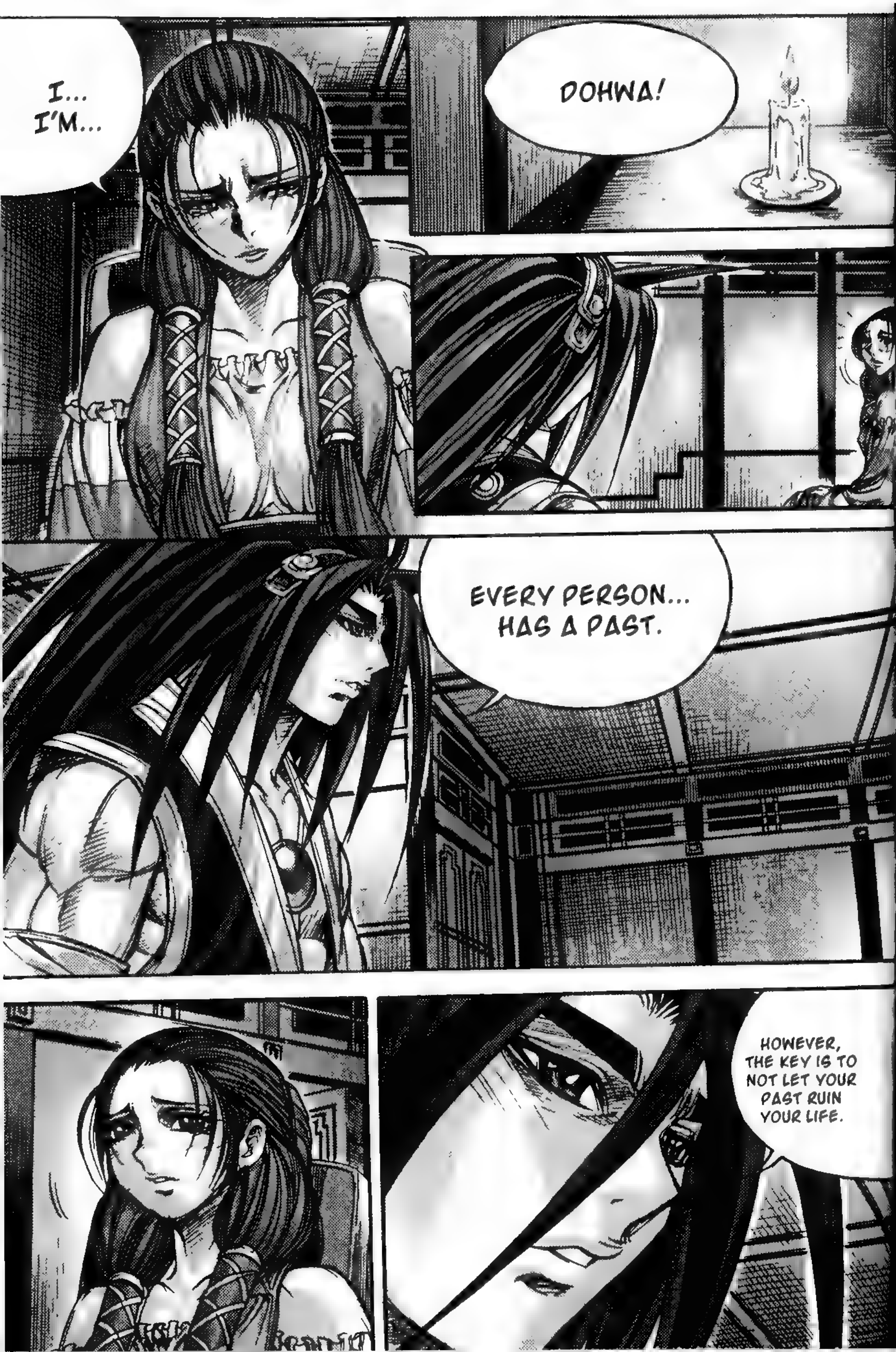

HOW VERY TOUCHING.
방긋
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
탁
I, TOO, MUST HAVE PARENTS, RIGHT?
OF... OF COURSE.
......
I WANT TO MEET THEM...

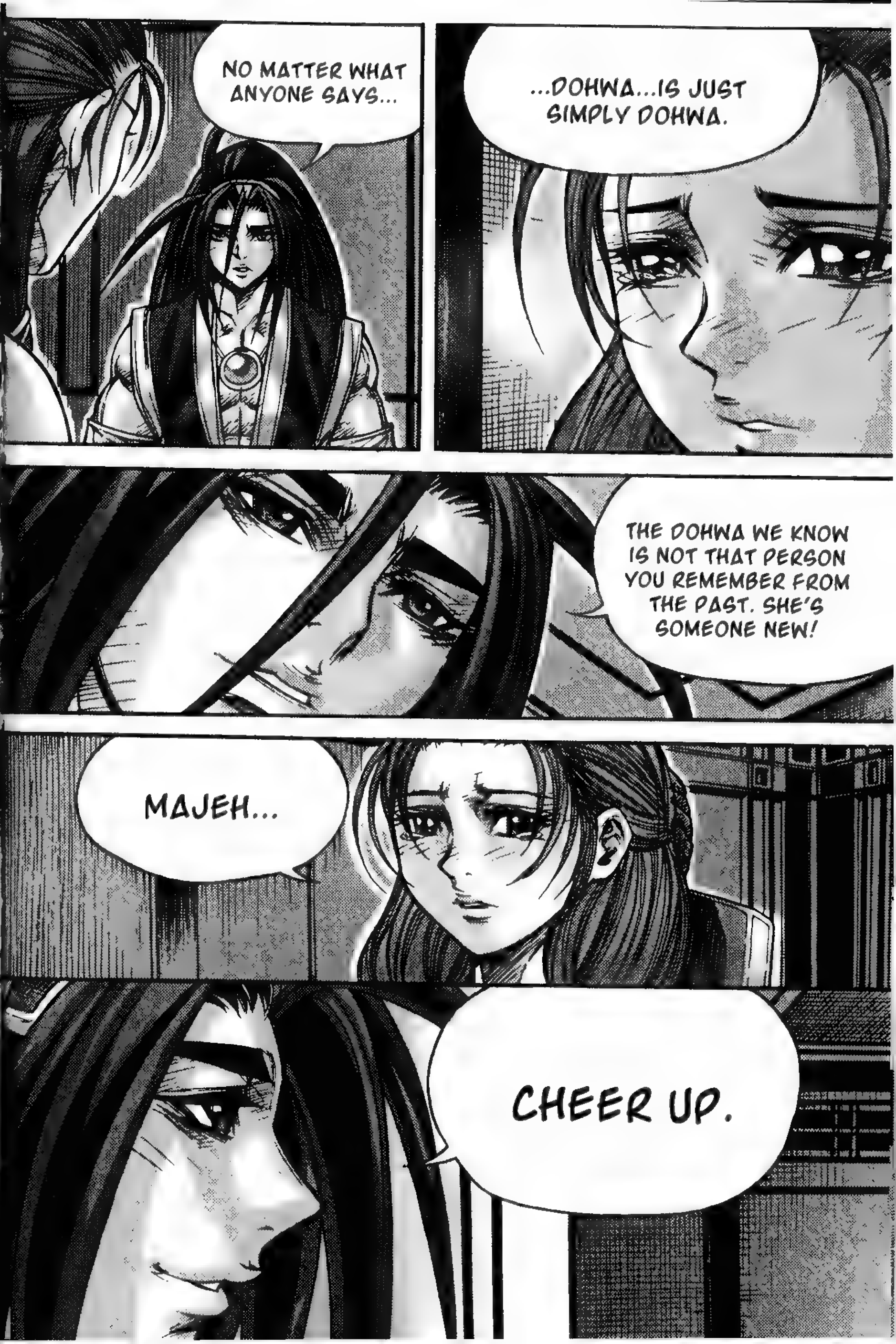

...SOMEDAY.
MAJEH...
IF YOU'RE NOT SLEEPING, CAN WE HAVE A CHAT?

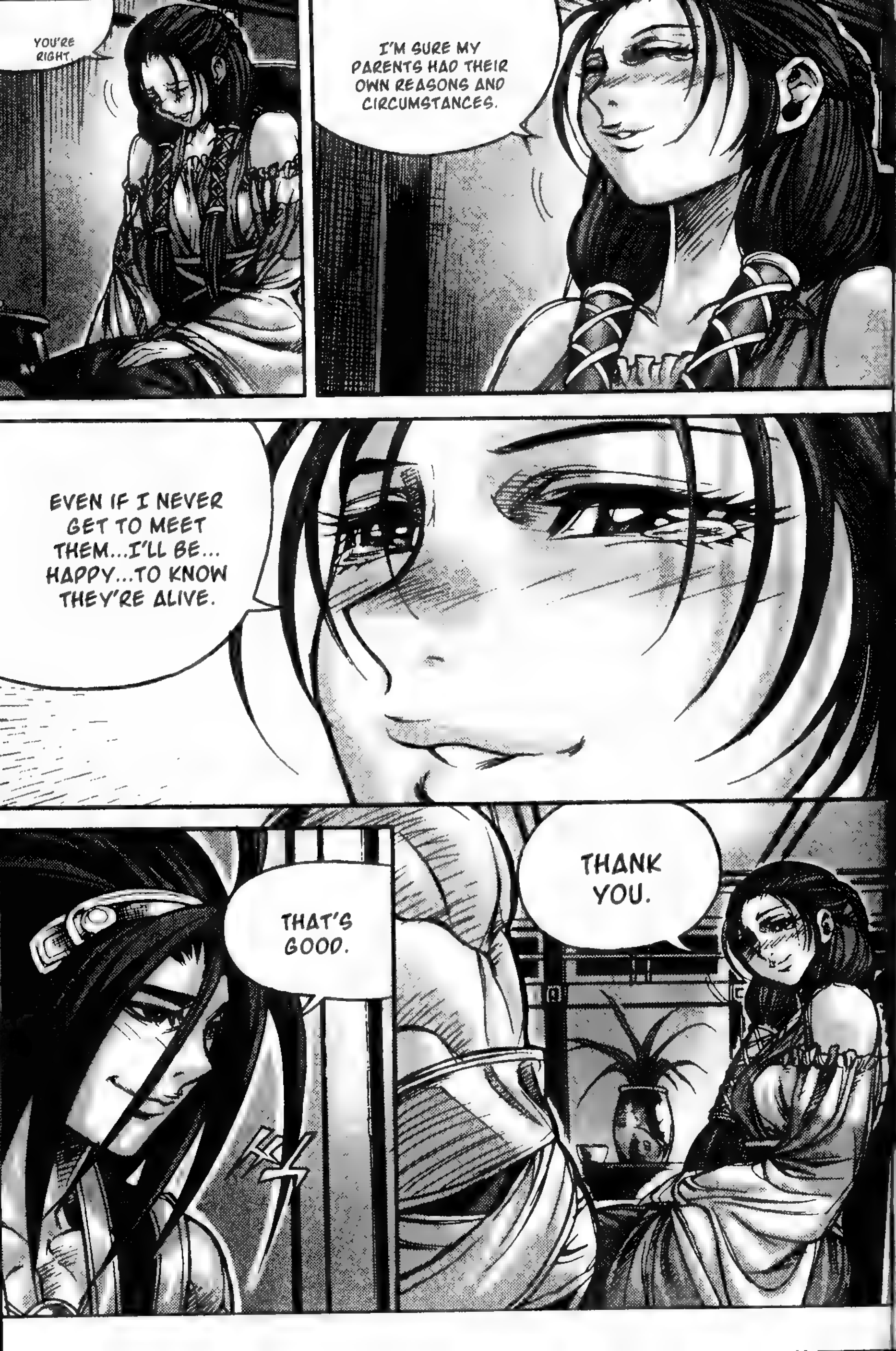

COME IN.
SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU.
COME IN AND SIT DOWN, DOHWA!
OKAY
DOHWA...
......

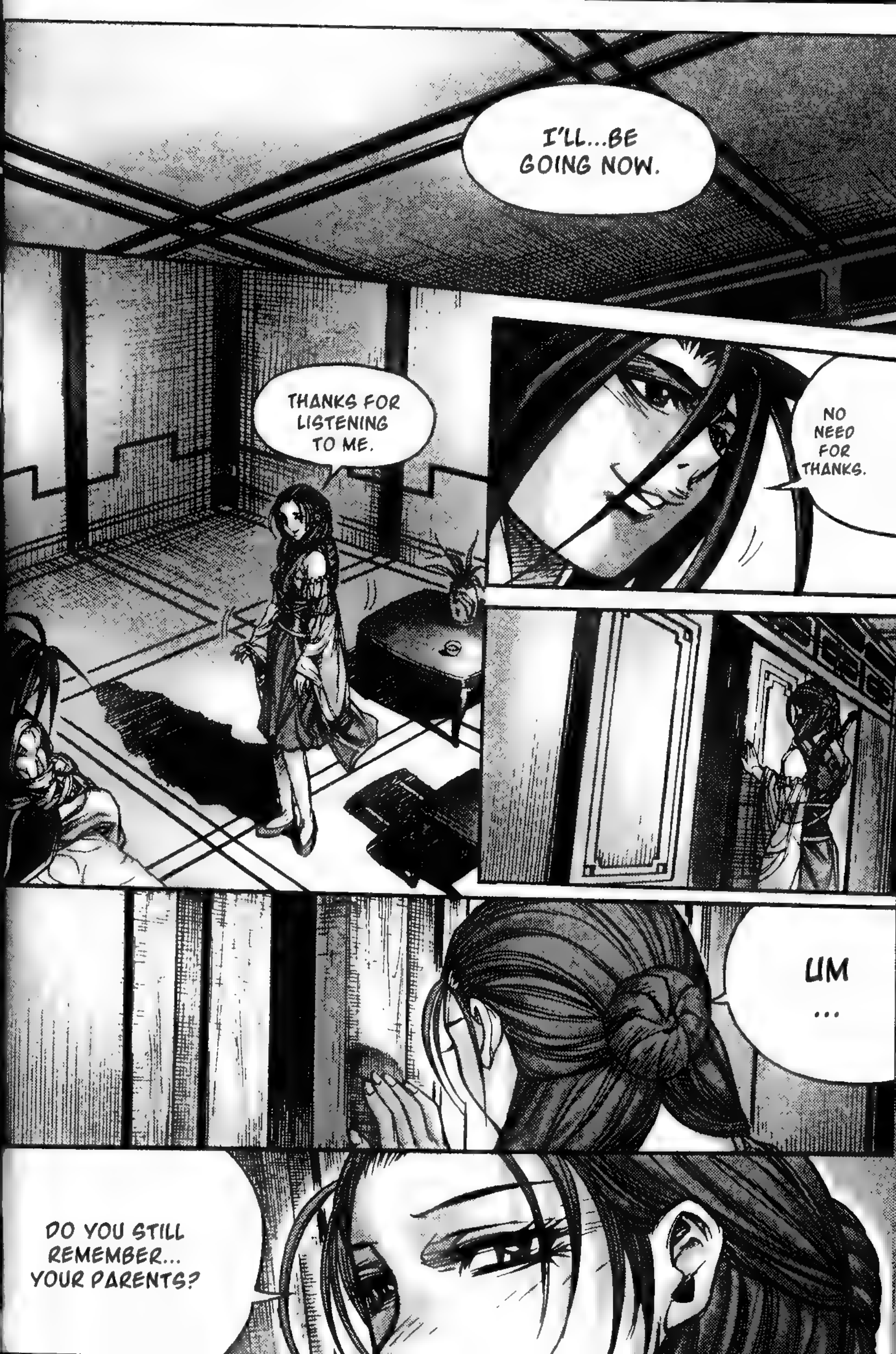

YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING A BIT DOWN SINCE THIS AFTERNOON...
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?
I CAN'T HELP IT. I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
I...
...DON'T KNOW WHO MY PARENTS ARE!

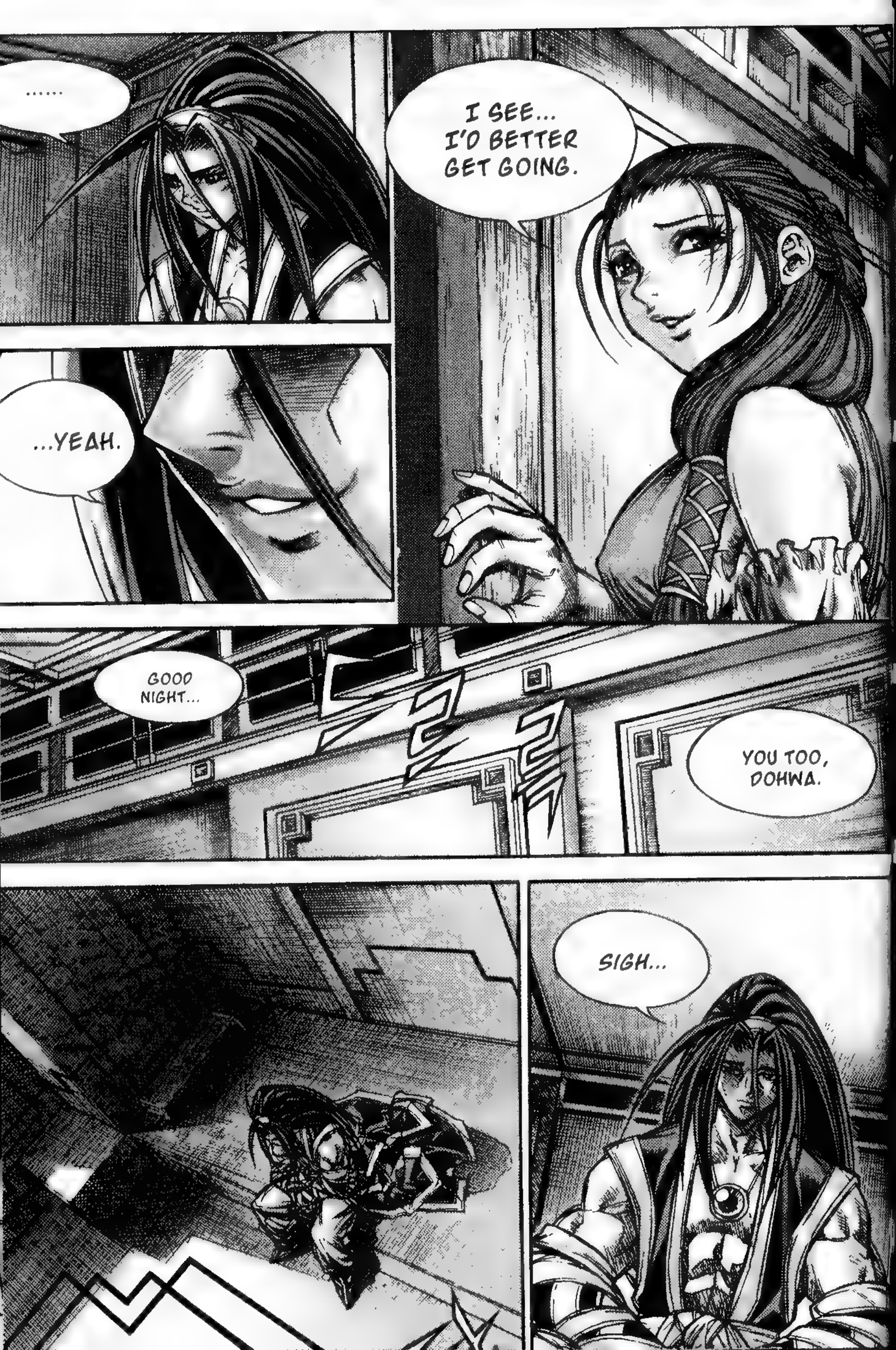

MY MASTER FOUND ME AS A LITTLE GIRL AND RAISED ME.
......
JUST WHO... WHO... WHO AM I?
...I KILLED PEOPLE WITH THIS WHIP. THAT CHILD BACK THEN... WHO WAS THAT?
IN A... IN A DAZE...

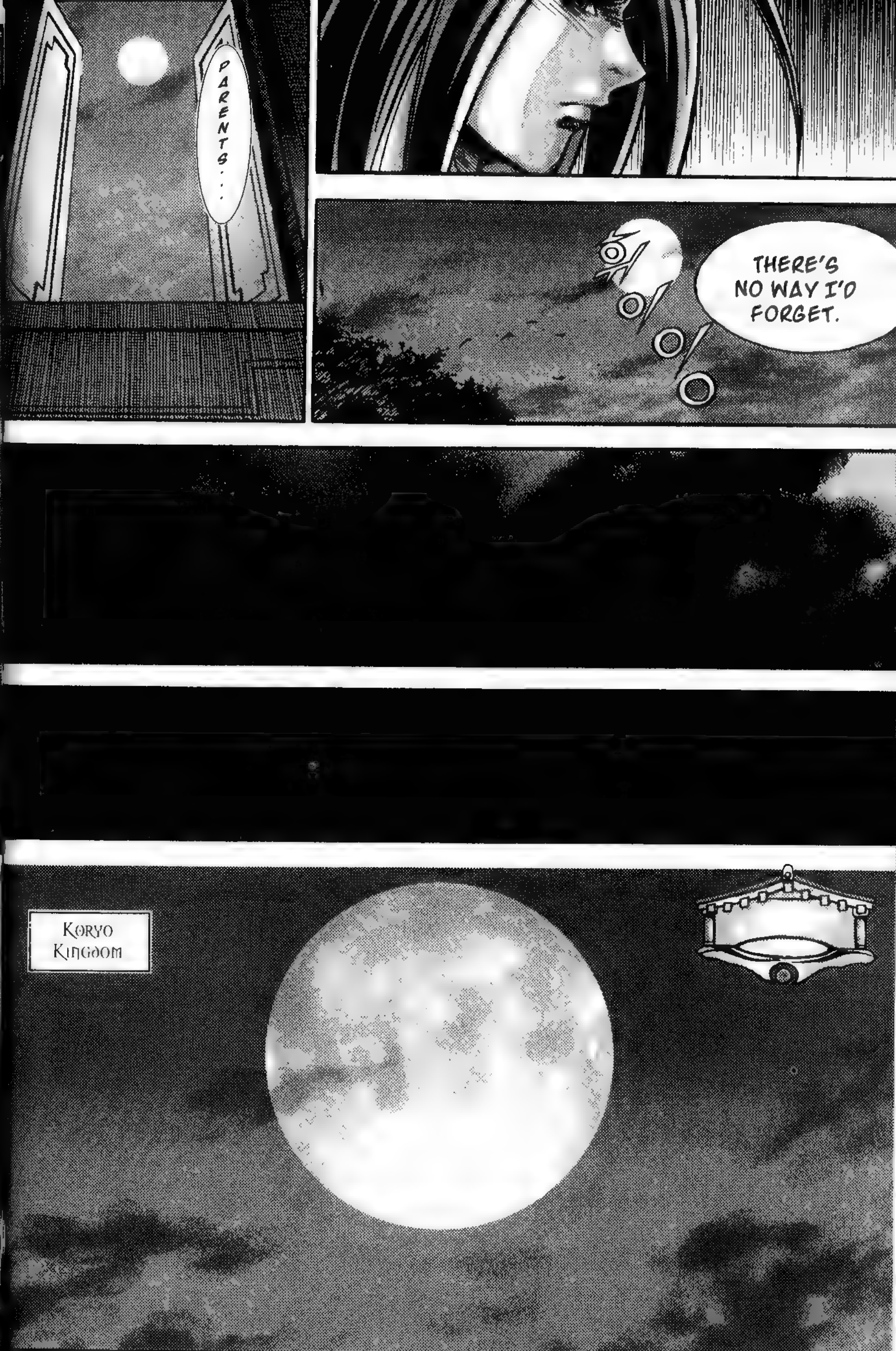

I... I'M...
DOHWA!
EVERY PERSON... HAS A PAST.
HOWEVER, THE KEY IS TO NOT LET YOUR PAST RUIN YOUR LIFE.

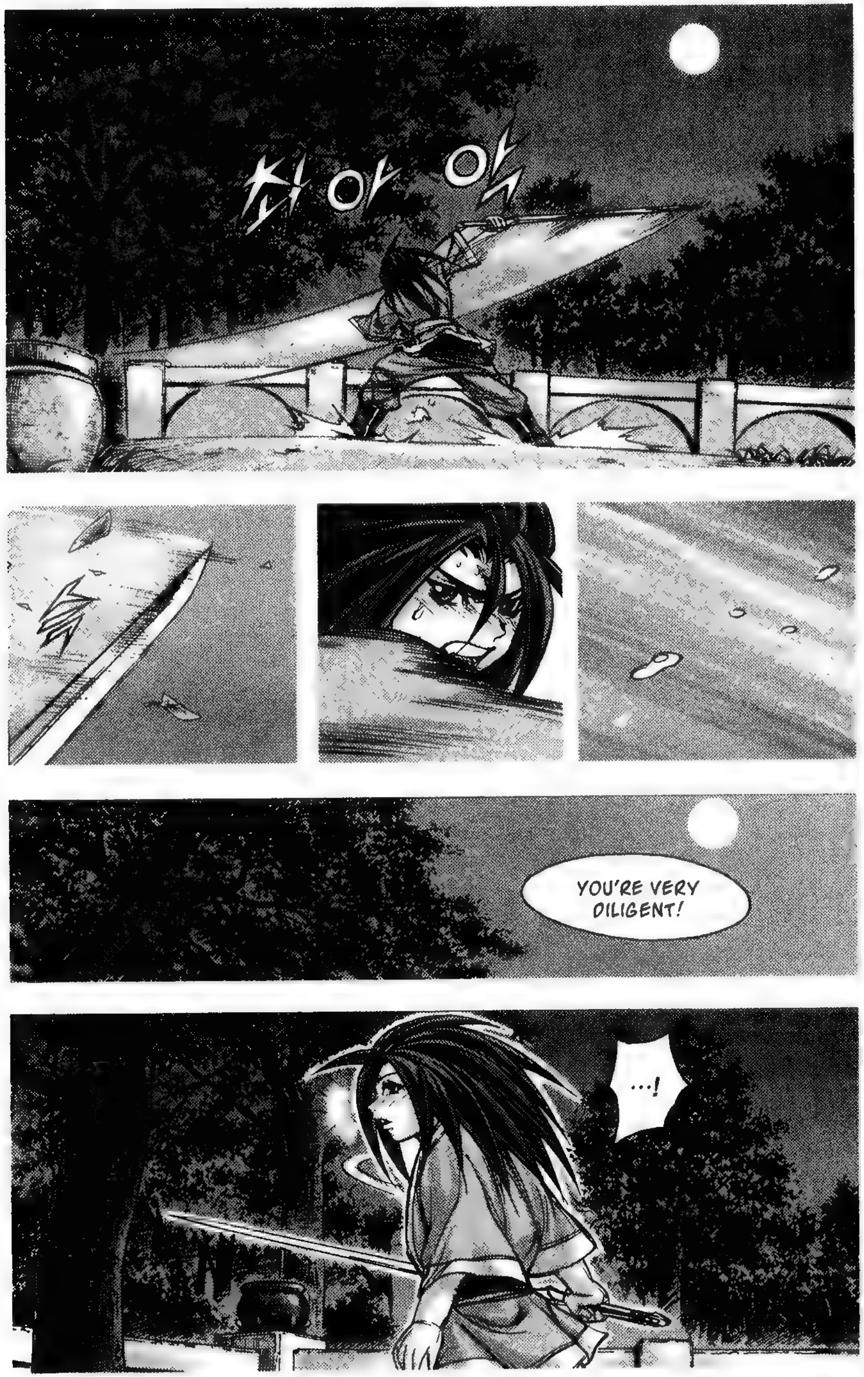

NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS...
...DOHWA...IS JUST SIMPLY DOHWA.
THE DOHWA WE KNOW IS NOT THAT PERSON YOU REMEMBER FROM THE PAST. SHE'S SOMEONE NEW!
MAJEH...
CHEER UP.

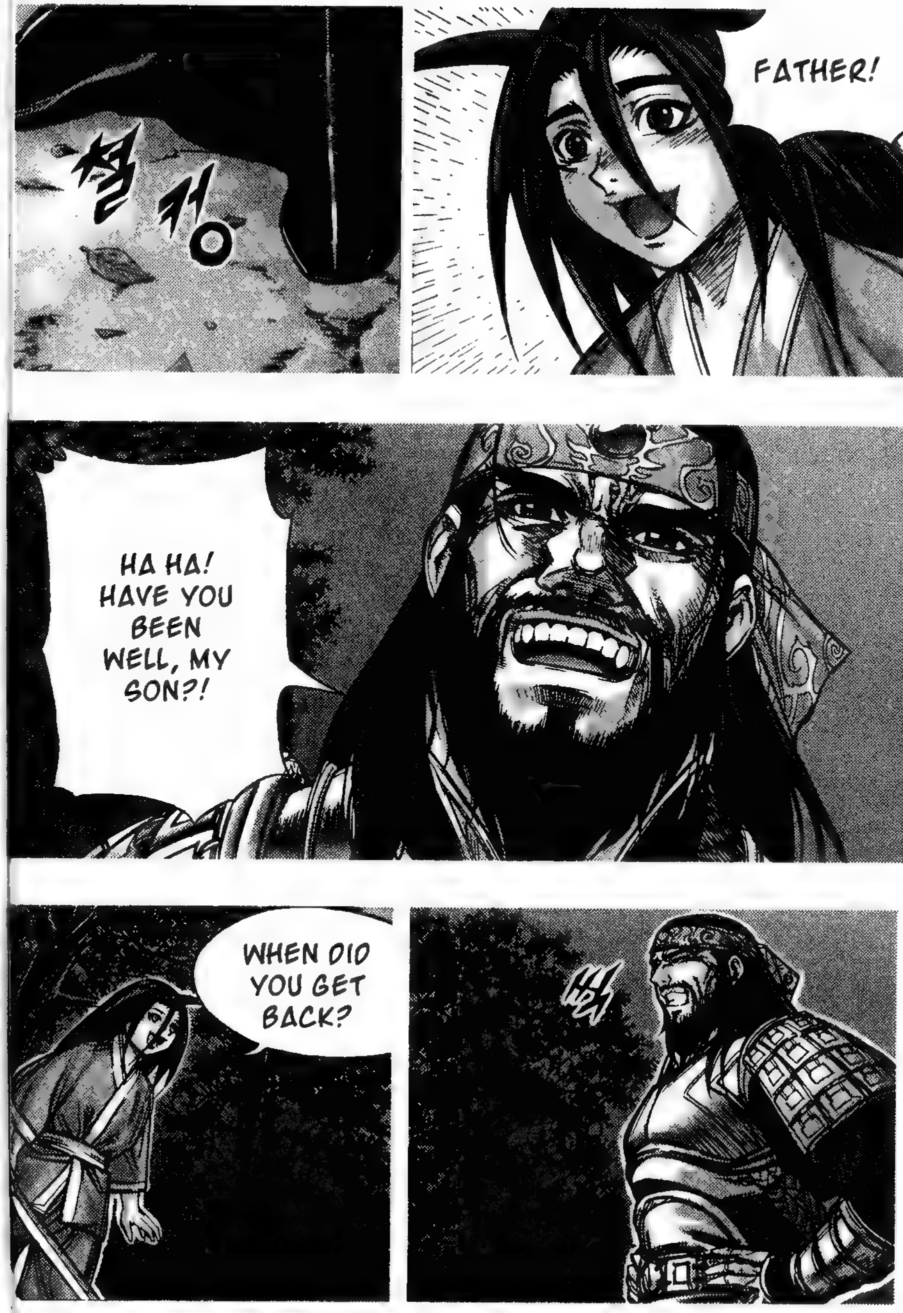

YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M SURE MY PARENTS HAD THEIR OWN REASONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.
EVEN IF I NEVER GET TO MEET THEM...I'LL BE... HAPPY...TO KNOW THEY'RE ALIVE.
THAT'S GOOD.
THANK YOU.

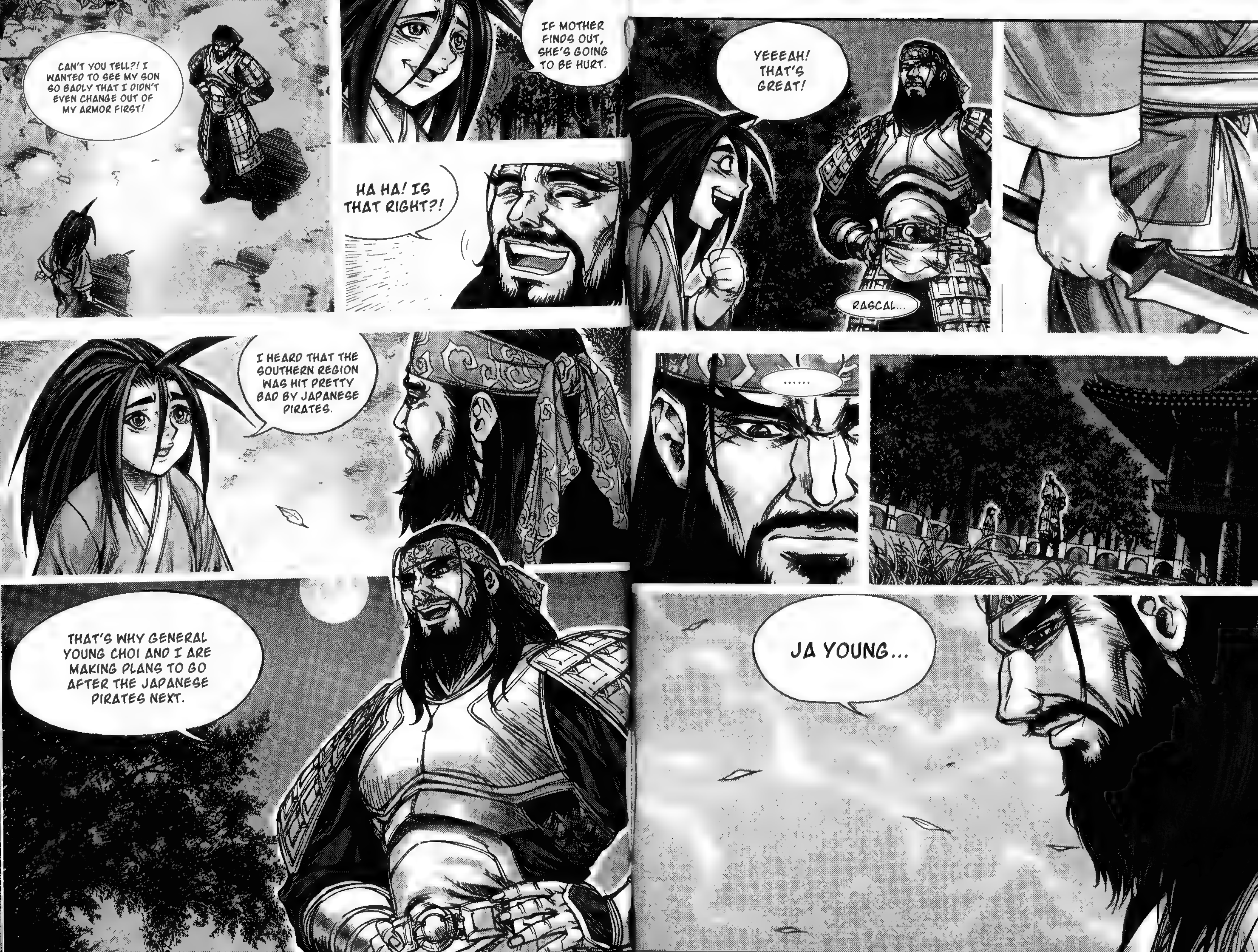

I'LL...BE GOING NOW.
THANKS FOR LISTENING TO ME.
NO NEED FOR THANKS.
UM ...
DO YOU STILL REMEMBER... YOUR PARENTS?

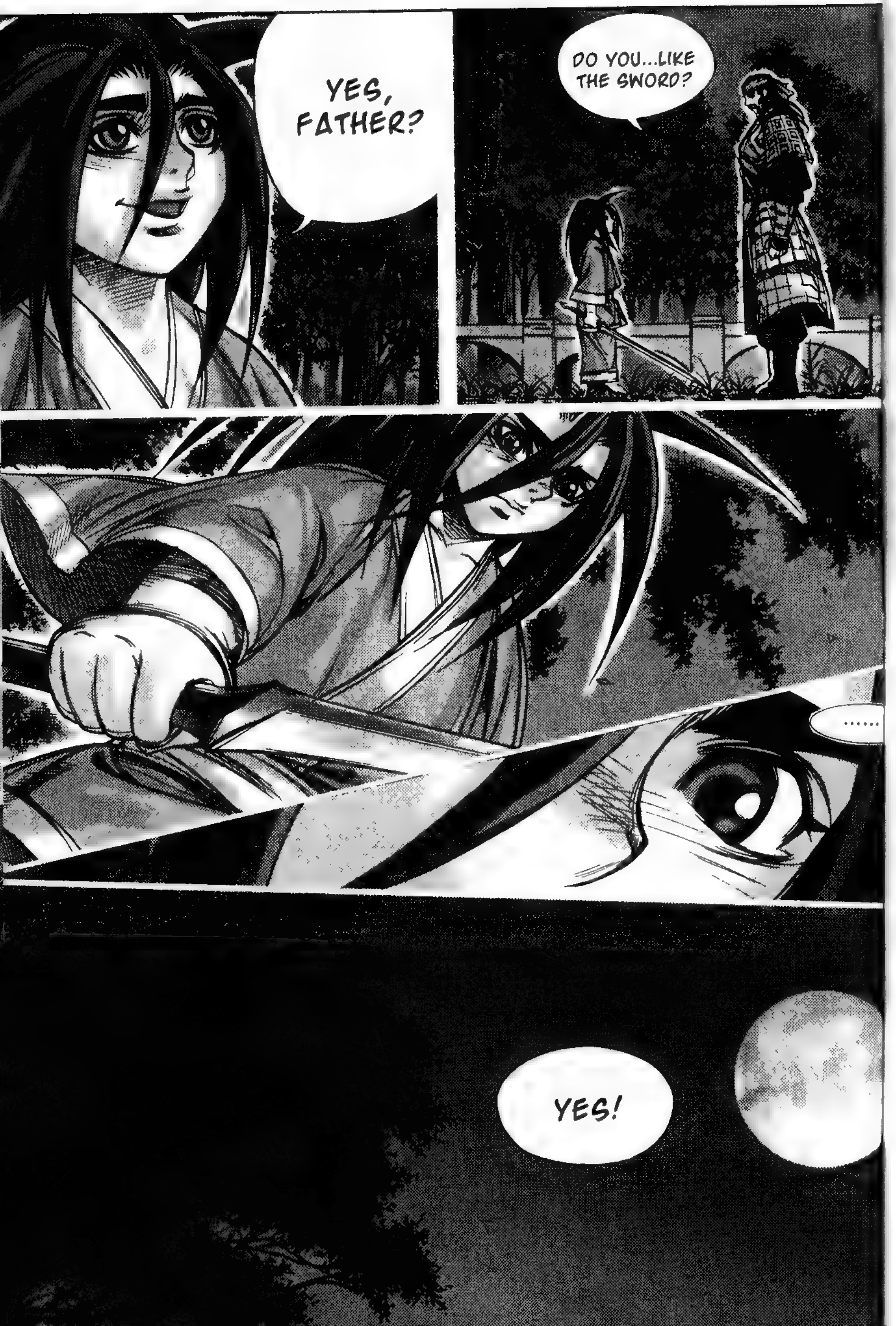

......
I SEE...
I'D BETTER
GET GOING.
...YEAH.
GOOD
NIGHT...
YOU TOO,
DOHWA.
SIGH...


PARENTS...
THERE'S
NO WAY I'D
FORGET.
KORYO
KINGDOM

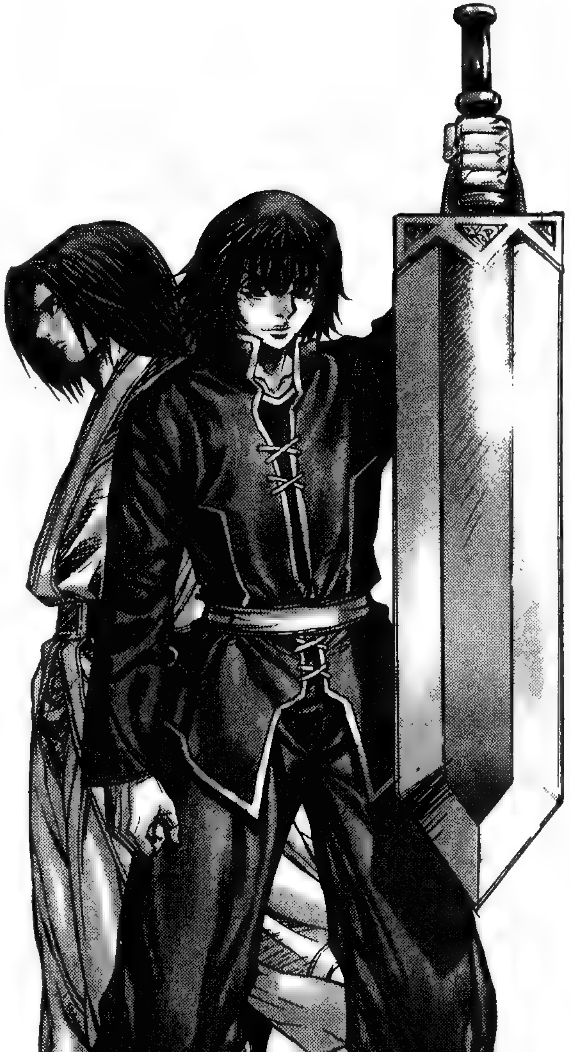

챠아앗
YOU'RE VERY DILIGENT!
...!

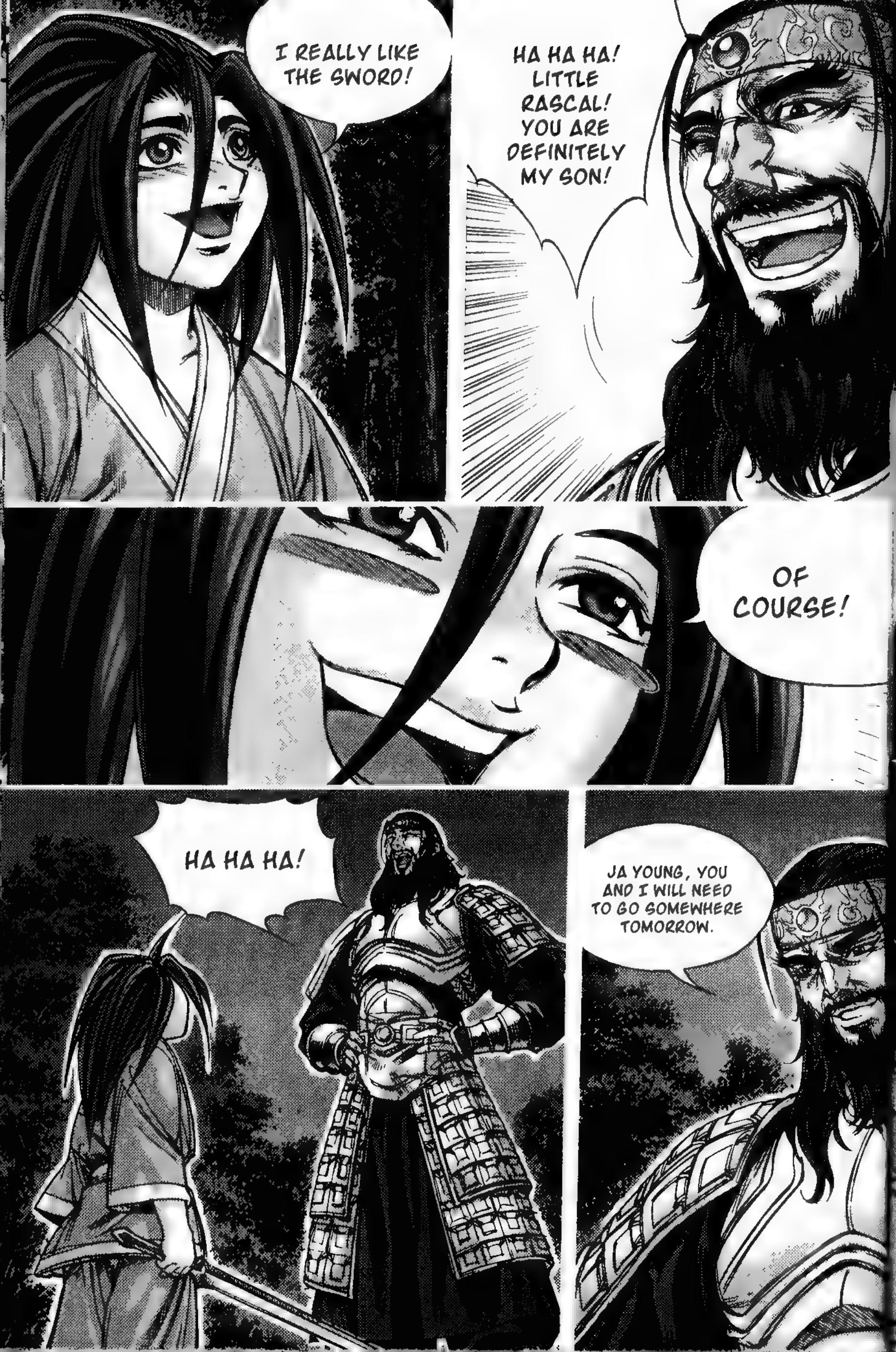

철컹
FATHER!
HA HA! HAVE YOU BEEN WELL, MY SON?!
WHEN DID YOU GET BACK?
헛

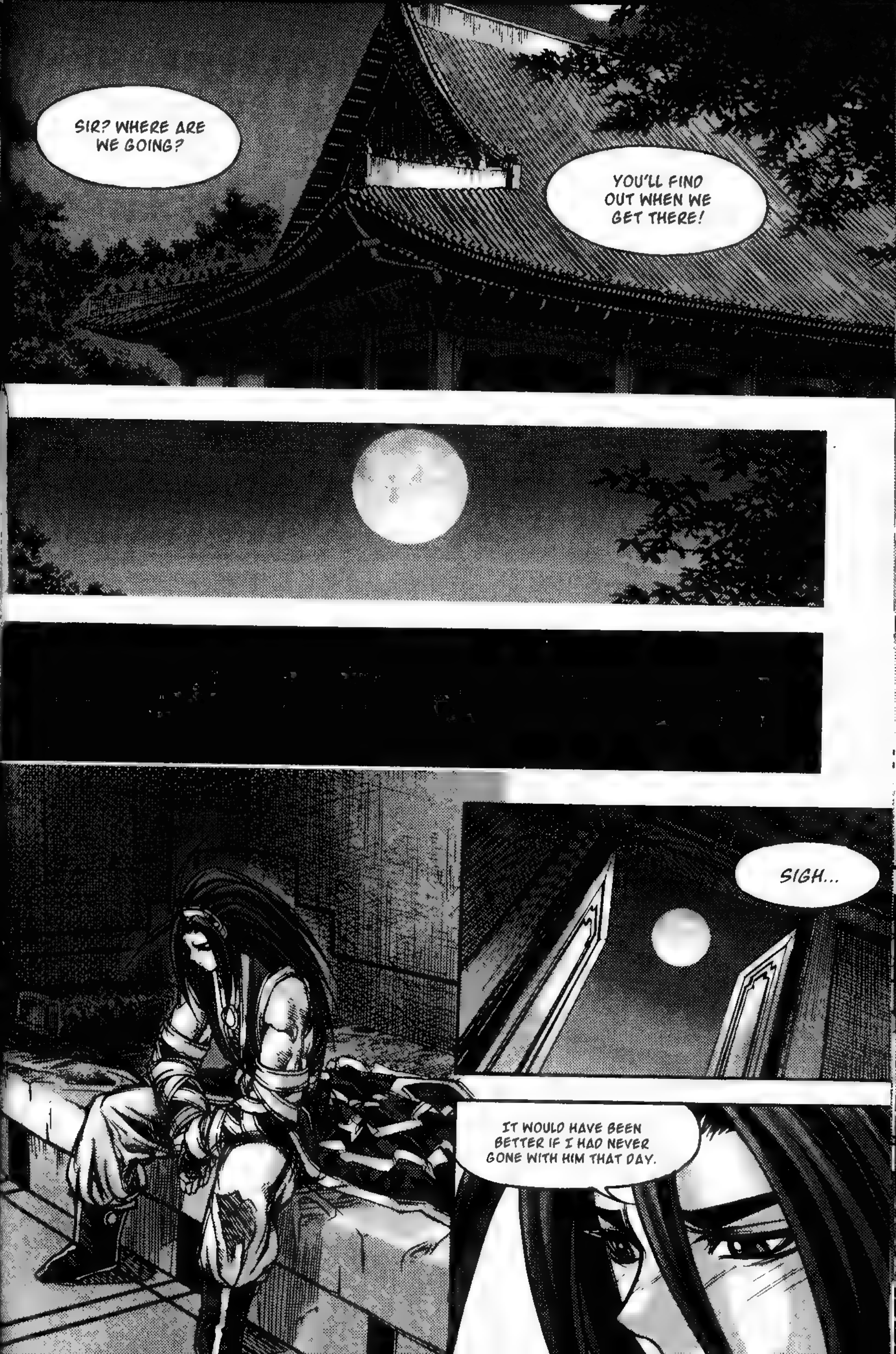

CAN'T YOU TELL?! I WANTED TO SEE MY SON SO BADLY THAT I DIDN'T EVEN CHANGE OUT OF MY ARMOR FIRST!
IF MOTHER FINDS OUT, SHE'S GOING TO BE HURT.
HA HA! IS THAT RIGHT?!
I HEARD THAT THE SOUTHERN REGION WAS HIT PRETTY BAD BY JAPANESE PIRATES.
THAT'S WHY GENERAL YOUNG CHOI AND I ARE MAKING PLANS TO GO AFTER THE JAPANESE PIRATES NEXT.
YEEEAH! THAT'S GREAT!
RASCAL...
......
JA YOUNG...

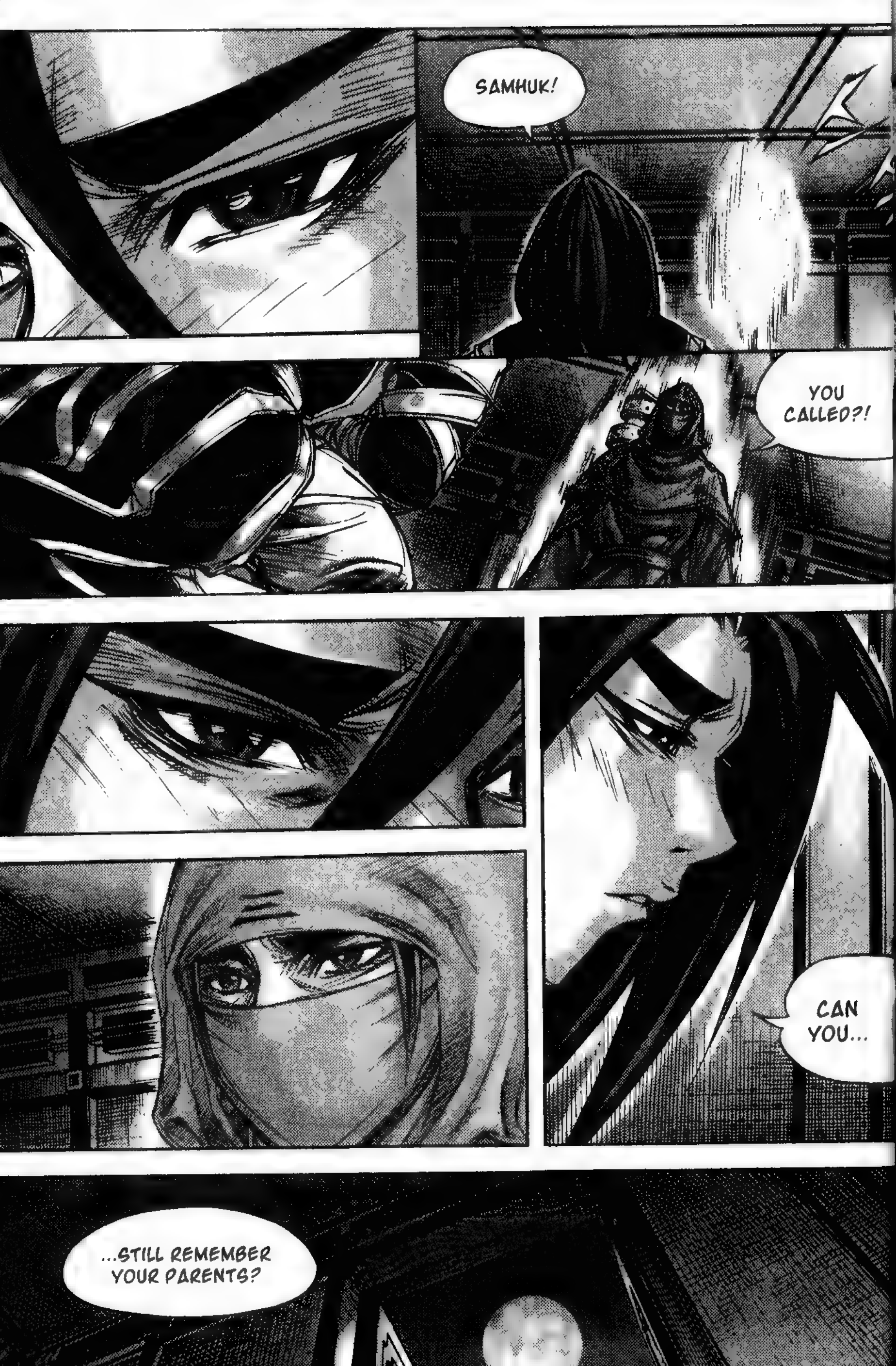

YES, FATHER?
DO YOU...LIKE THE SWORD?
……
YES!

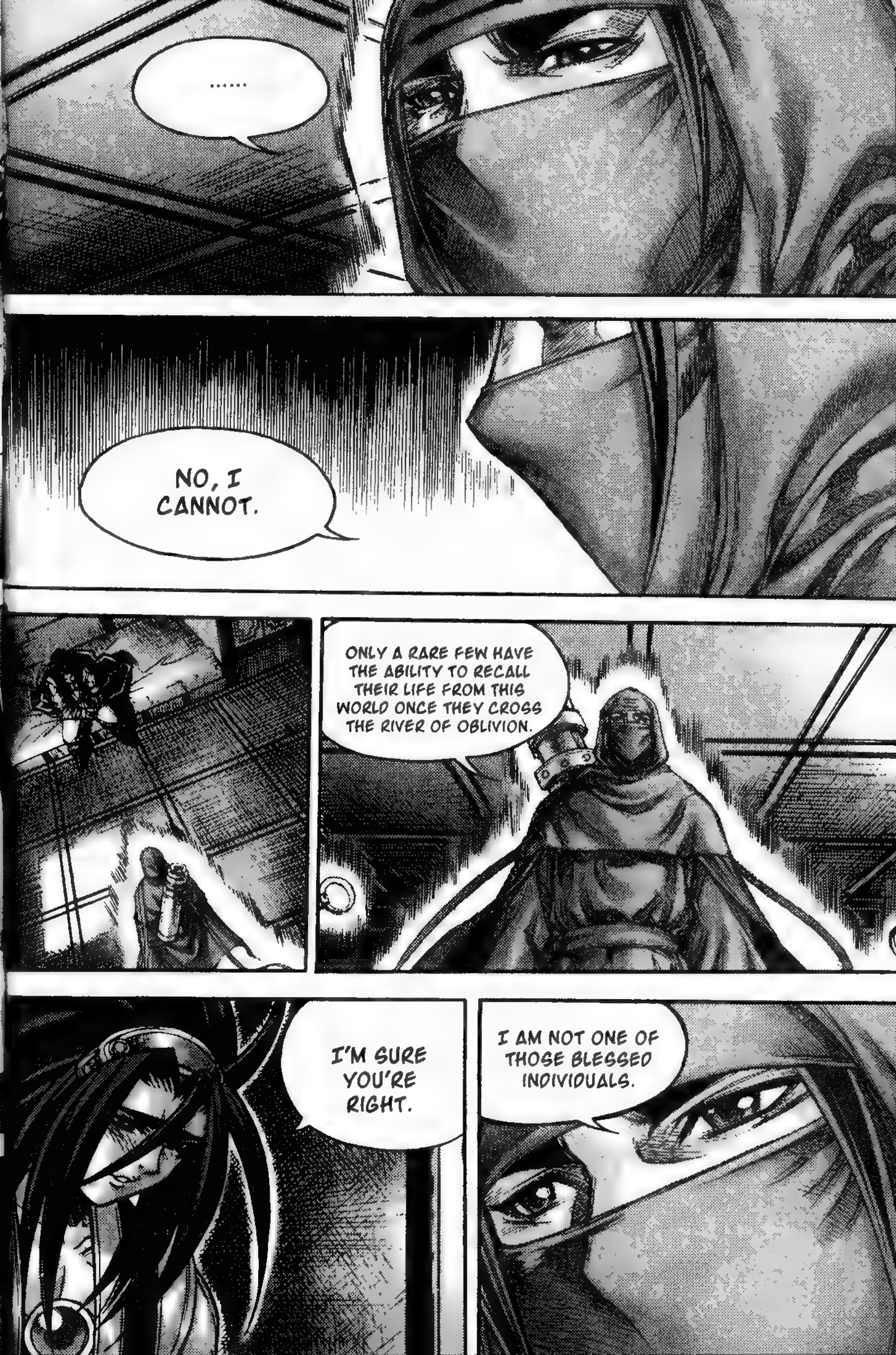
KING OF HELL™

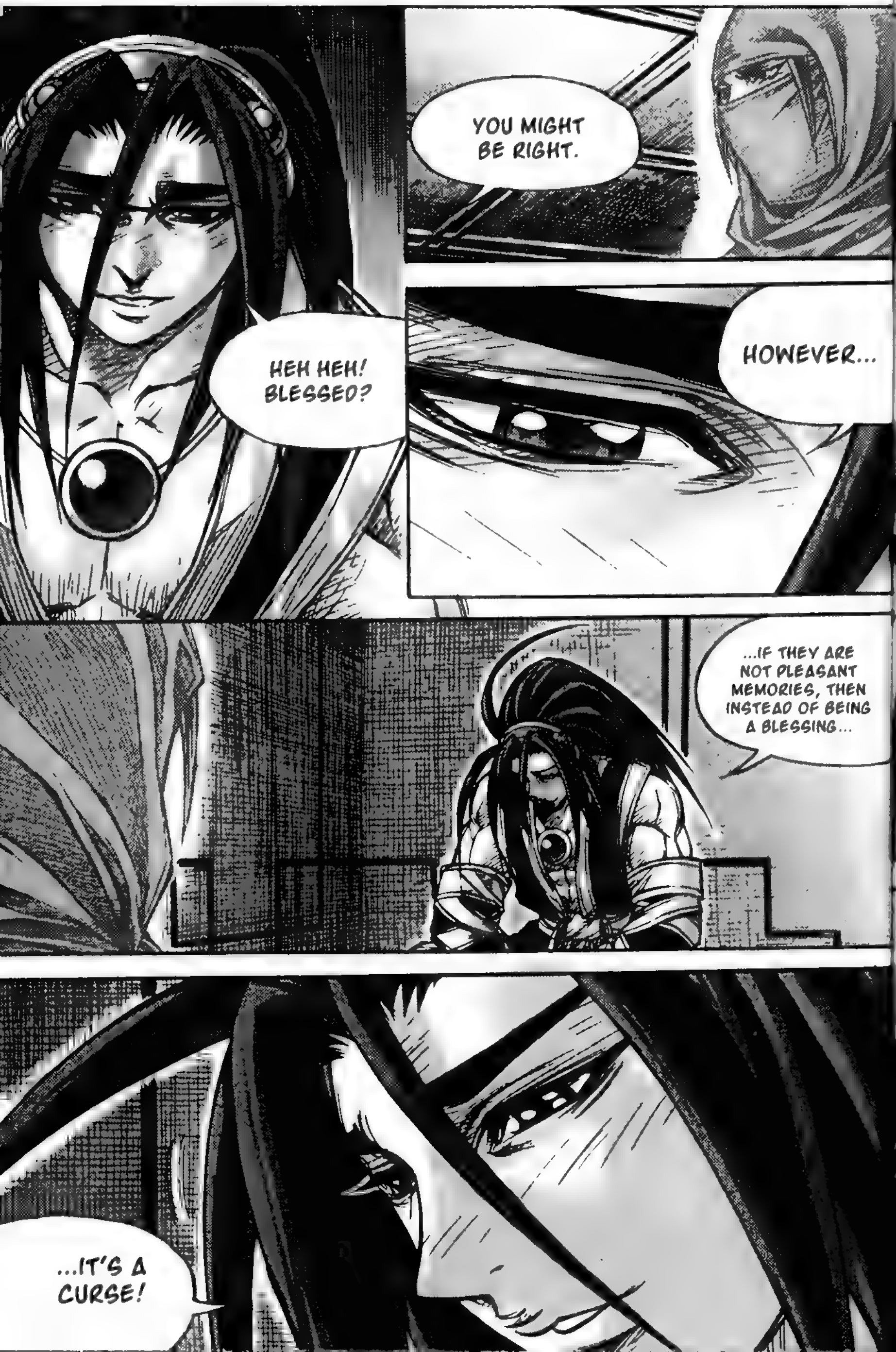


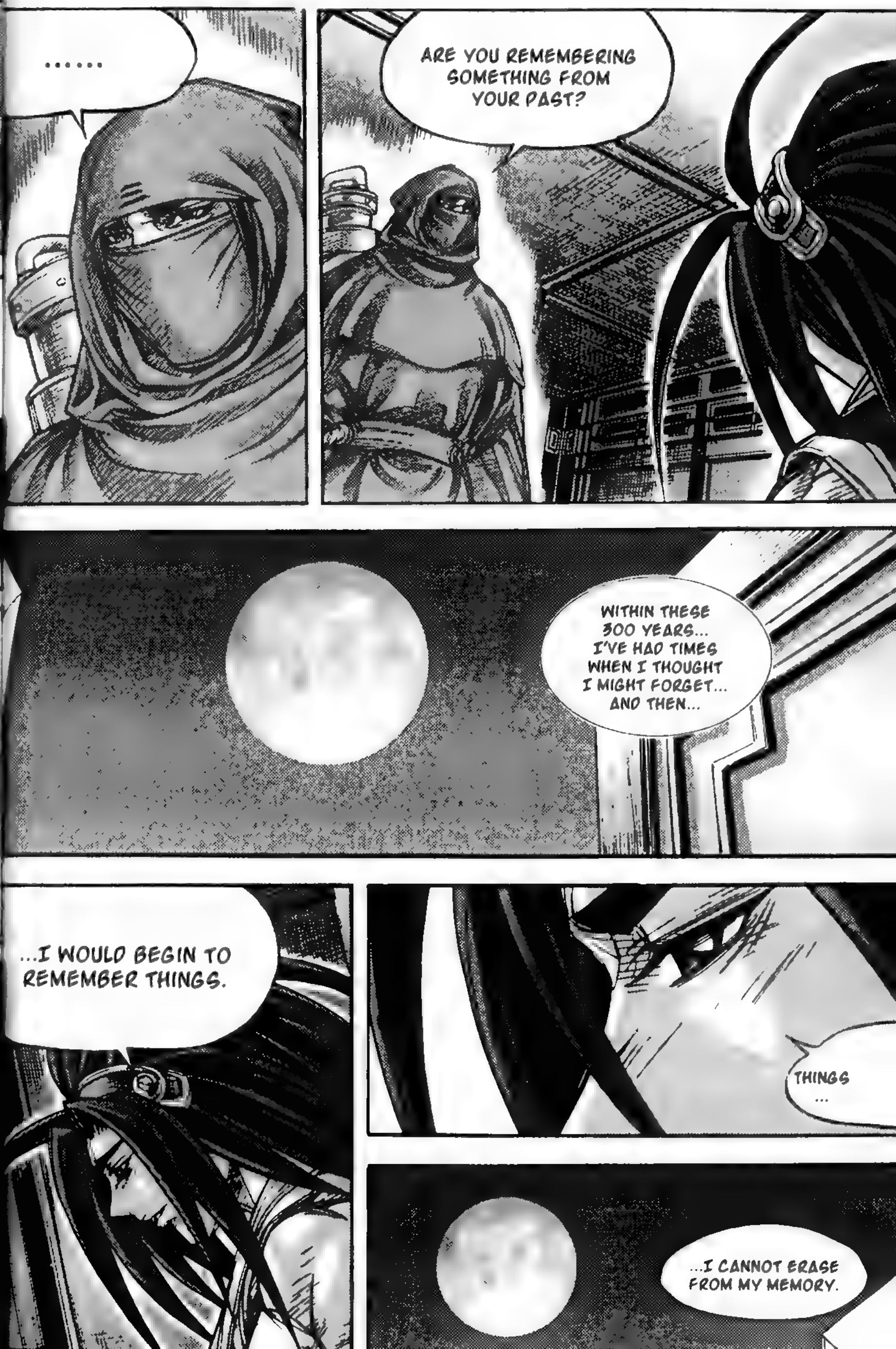

I REALLY LIKE THE SWORD!
HA HA HA! LITTLE RASCAL! YOU ARE DEFINITELY MY SON!
OF COURSE!
HA HA HA!
JA YOUNG, YOU AND I WILL NEED TO GO SOMEWHERE TOMORROW.

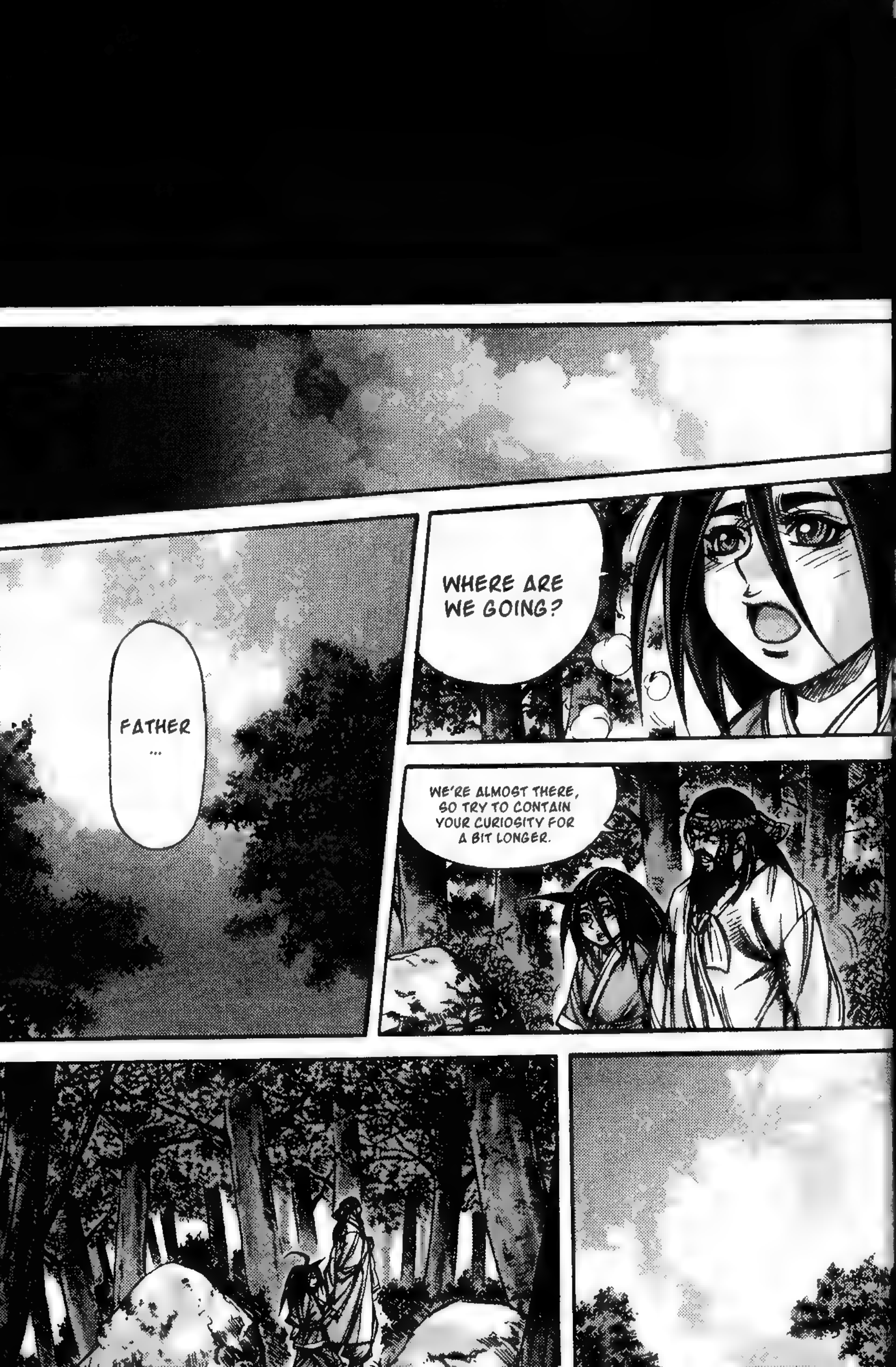

SIR? WHERE ARE WE GOING?
YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE GET THERE!
SIGH...
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF I HAD NEVER GONE WITH HIM THAT DAY.

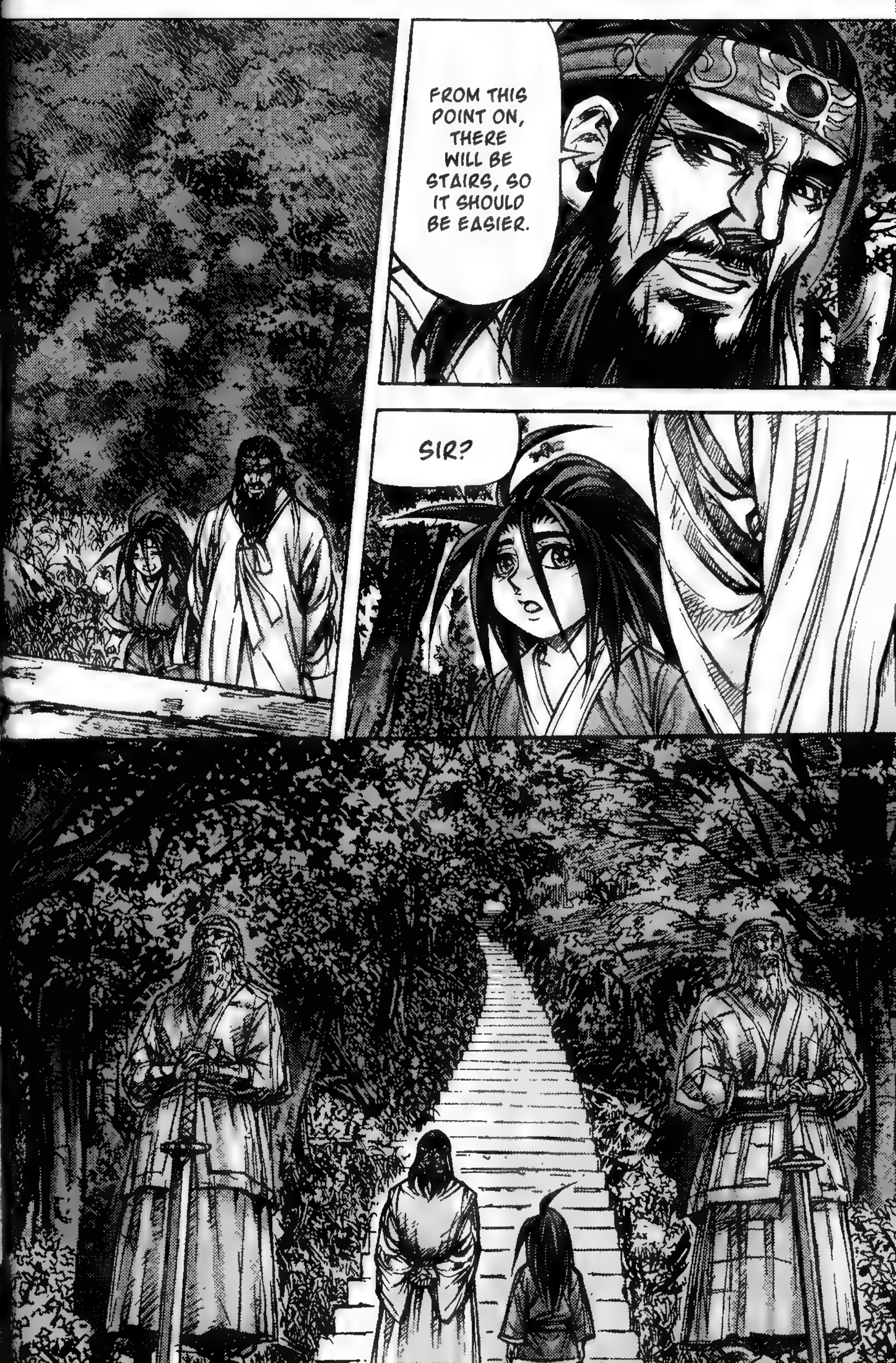

SAMHUK!
YOU CALLED?!
CAN YOU...
...STILL REMEMBER YOUR PARENTS?

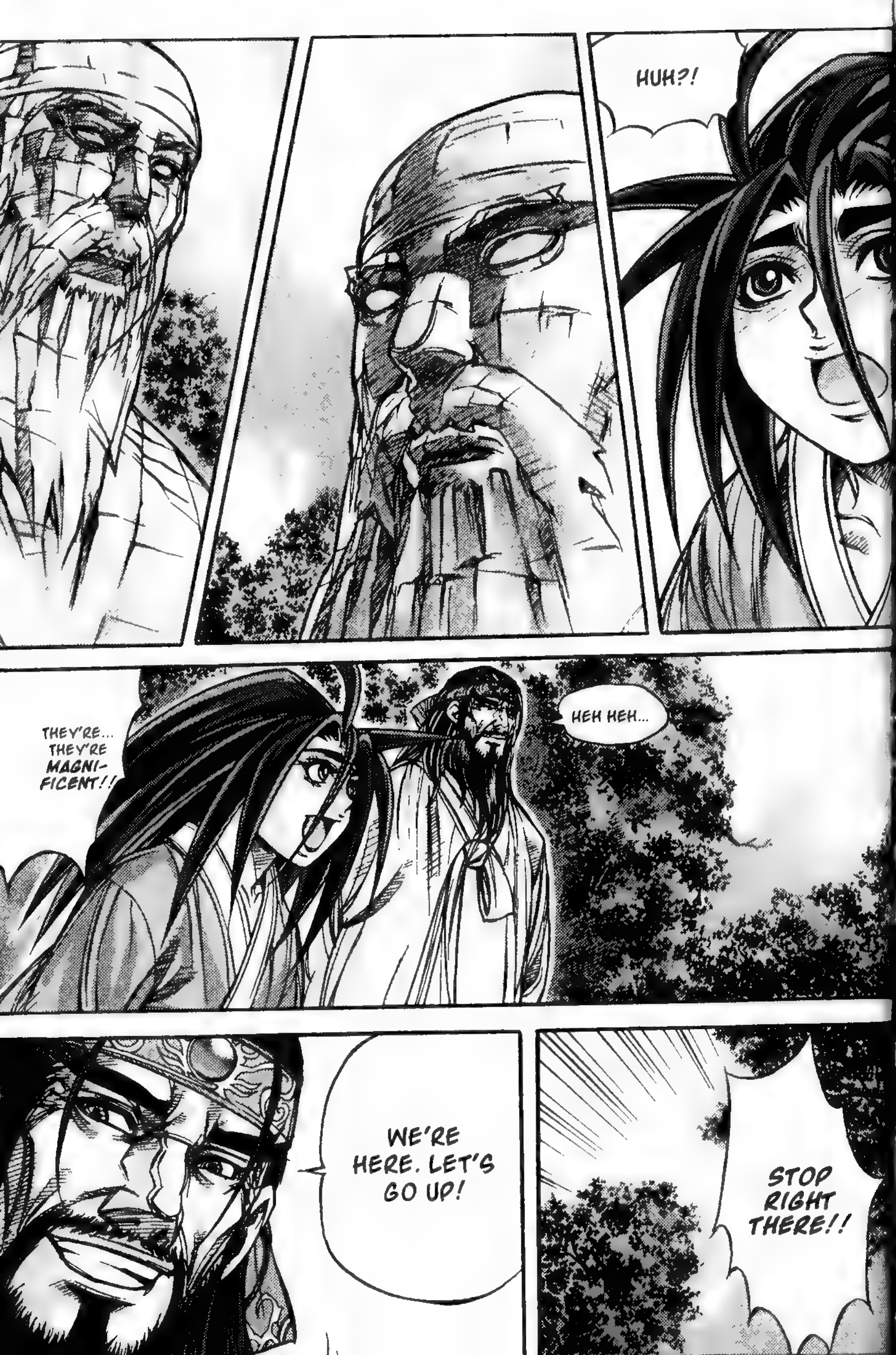

......
NO, I CANNOT.
ONLY A RARE FEW HAVE THE ABILITY TO RECALL THEIR LIFE FROM THIS WORLD ONCE THEY CROSS THE RIVER OF OBLIVION.
I'M SURE YOU'RE RIGHT.
I AM NOT ONE OF THOSE BLESSED INDIVIDUALS.

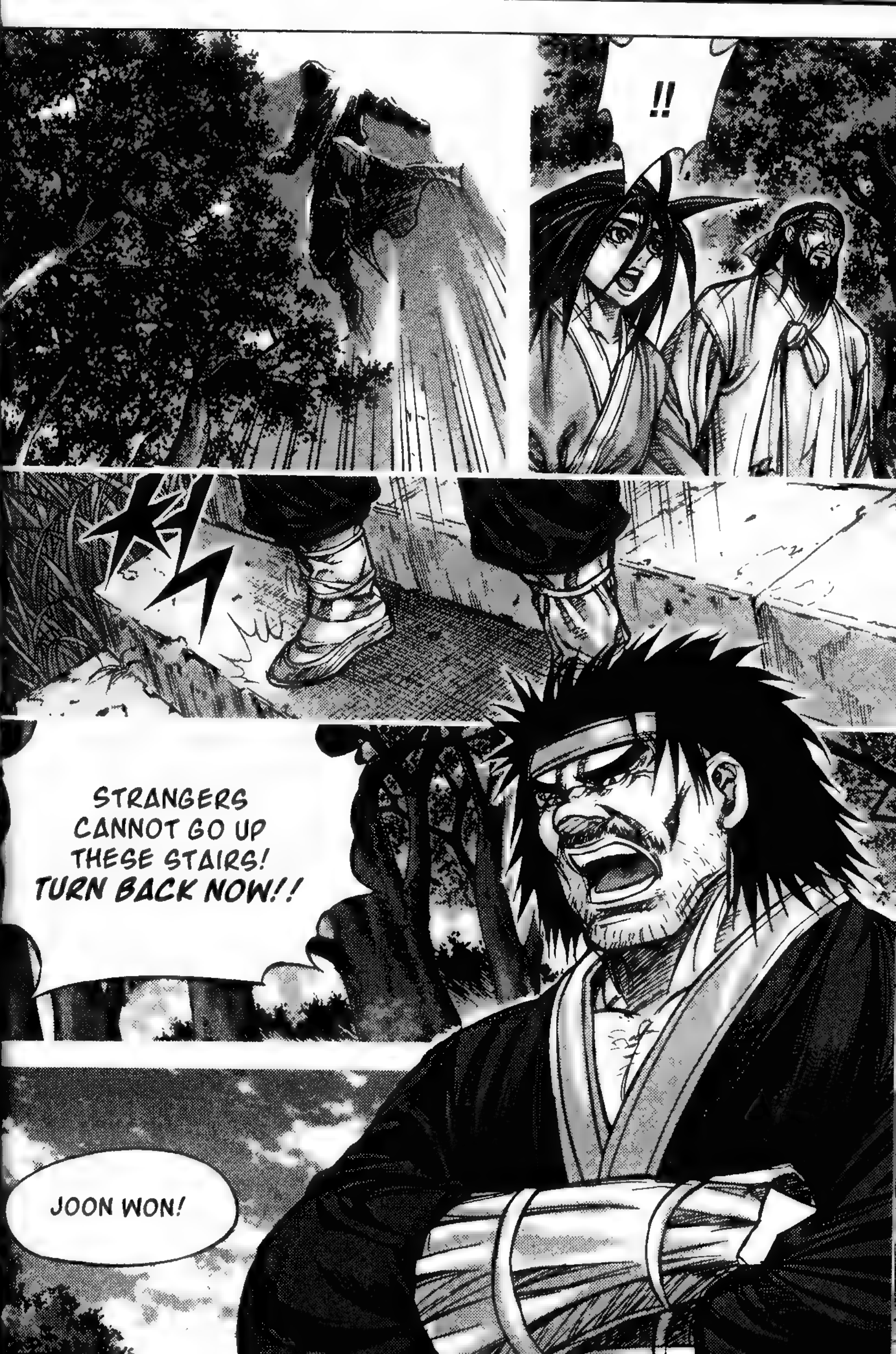

HEH HEH! BLESSED?
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.
HOWEVER...
...IF THEY ARE NOT PLEASANT MEMORIES, THEN INSTEAD OF BEING A BLESSING...
...IT'S A CURSE!

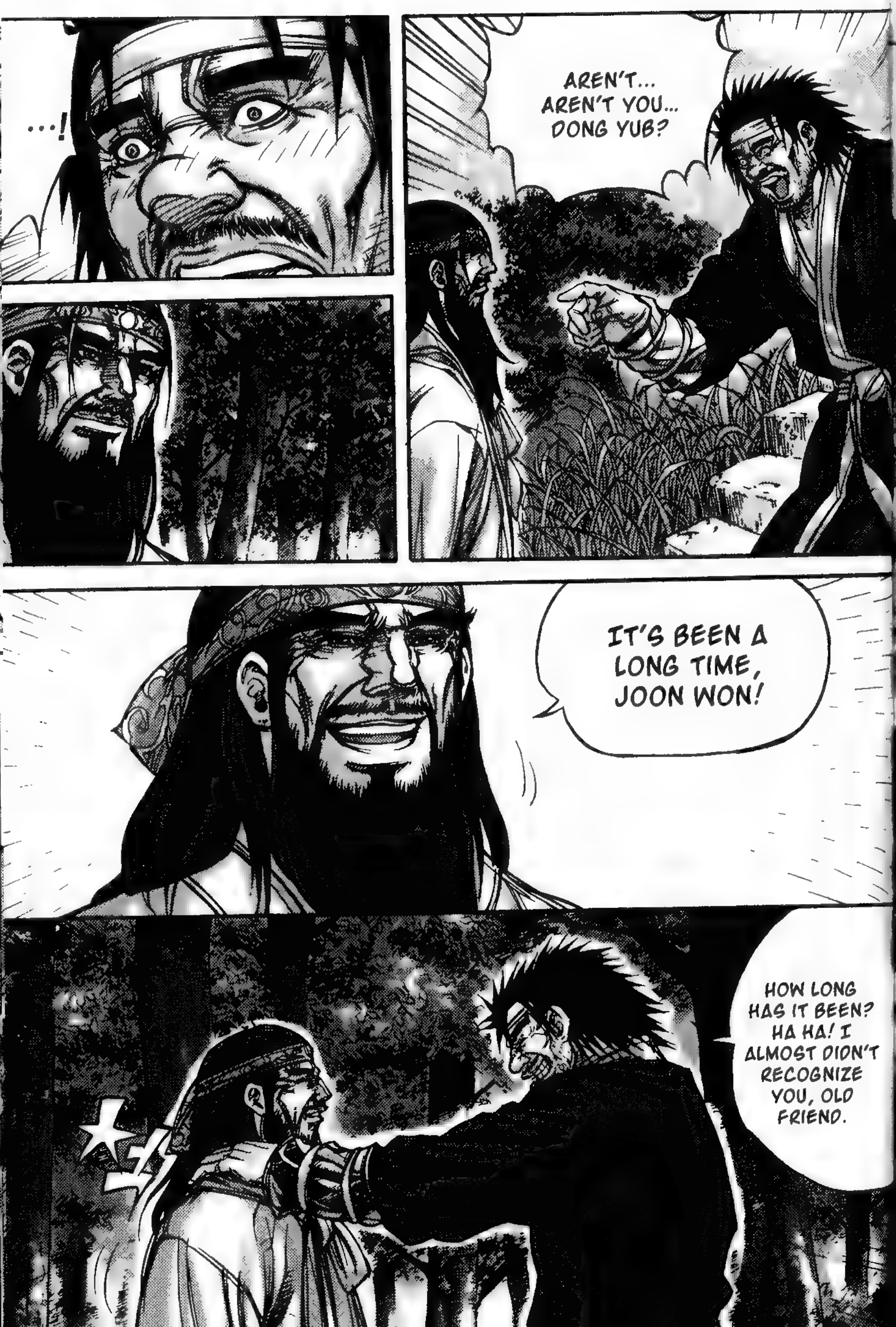

......
ARE YOU REMEMBERING SOMETHING FROM YOUR PAST?
WITHIN THESE 300 YEARS... I'VE HAD TIMES WHEN I THOUGHT I MIGHT FORGET... AND THEN...
...I WOULD BEGIN TO REMEMBER THINGS.
THINGS...
...I CANNOT ERASE FROM MY MEMORY.

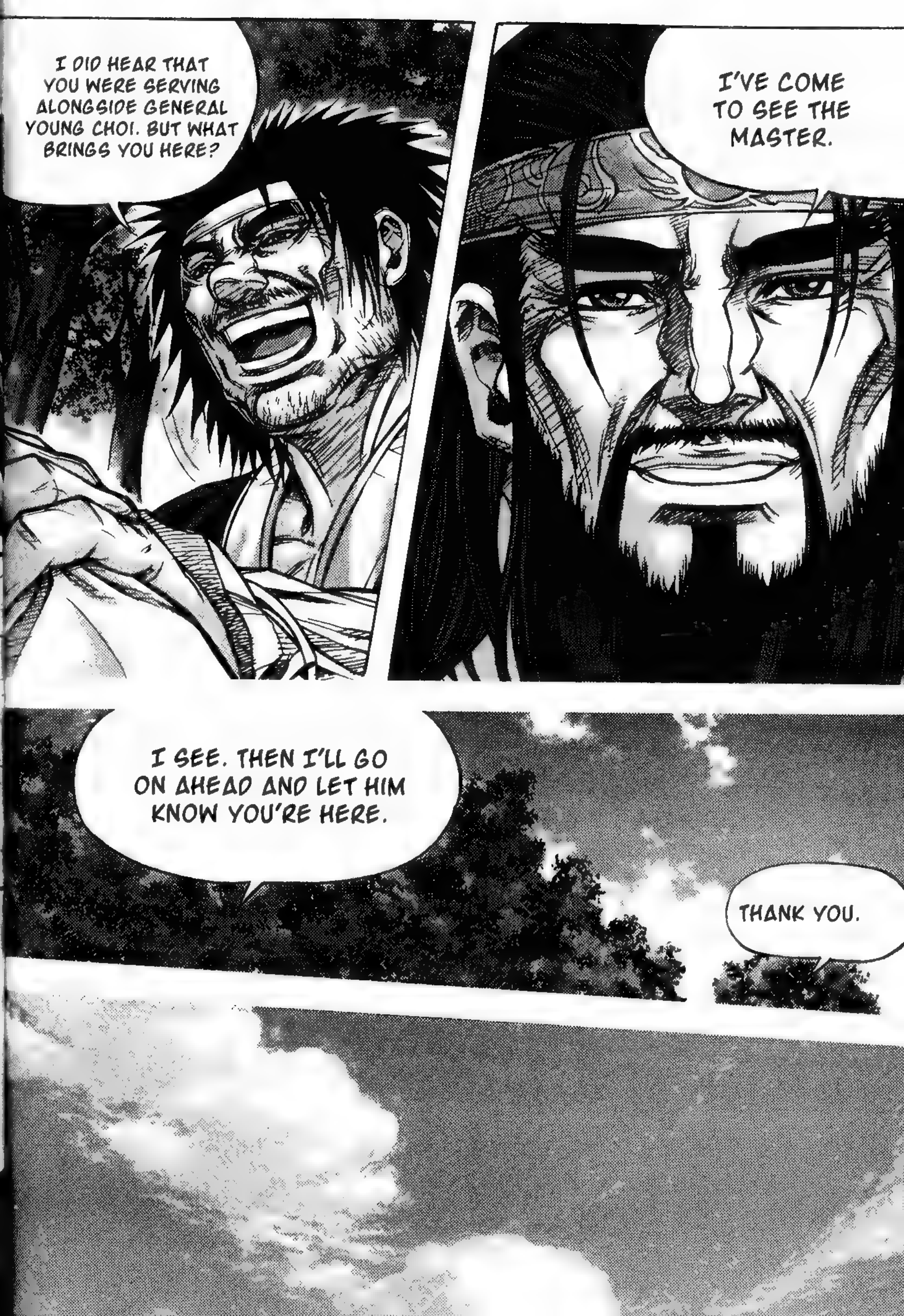

FATHER ...
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WE'RE ALMOST THERE, SO TRY TO CONTAIN YOUR CURIOSITY FOR A BIT LONGER.

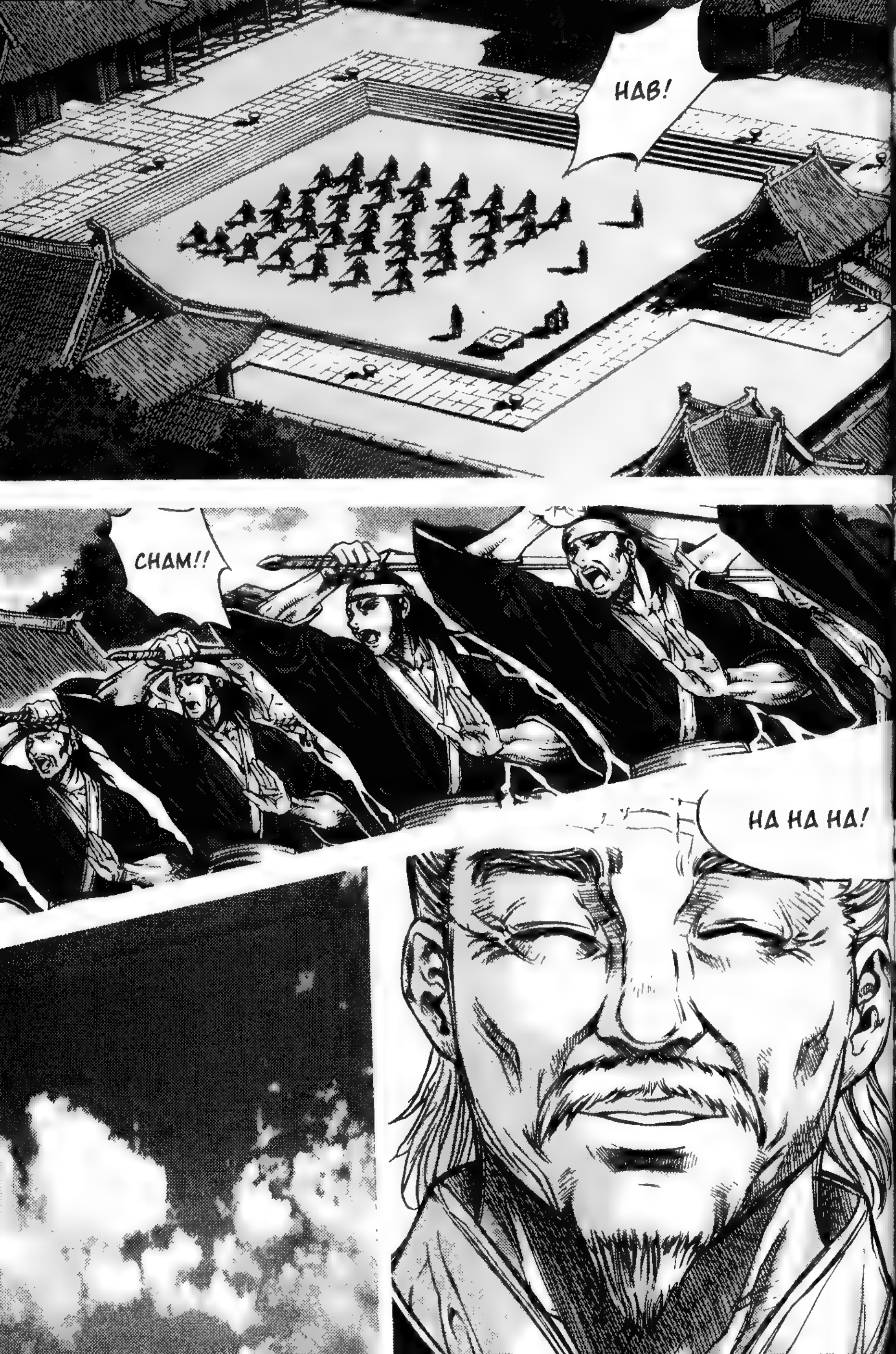

FROM THIS POINT ON, THERE WILL BE STAIRS, SO IT SHOULD BE EASIER.
SIR?

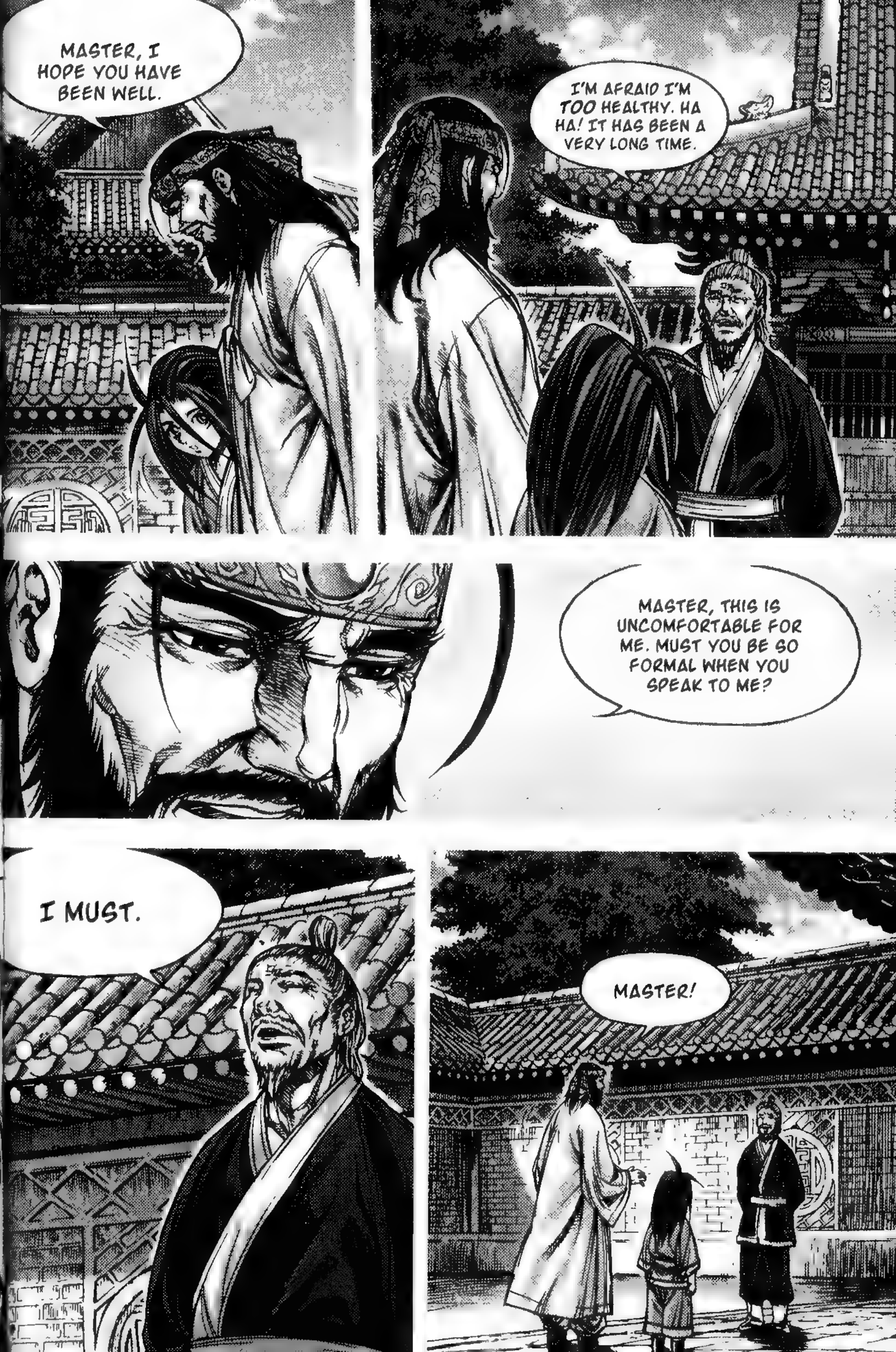

HUH?!
THEY'RE... THEY'RE MAGNIFICENT!!
HEH HEH...
WE'RE HERE. LET'S GO UP!
STOP RIGHT THERE!!

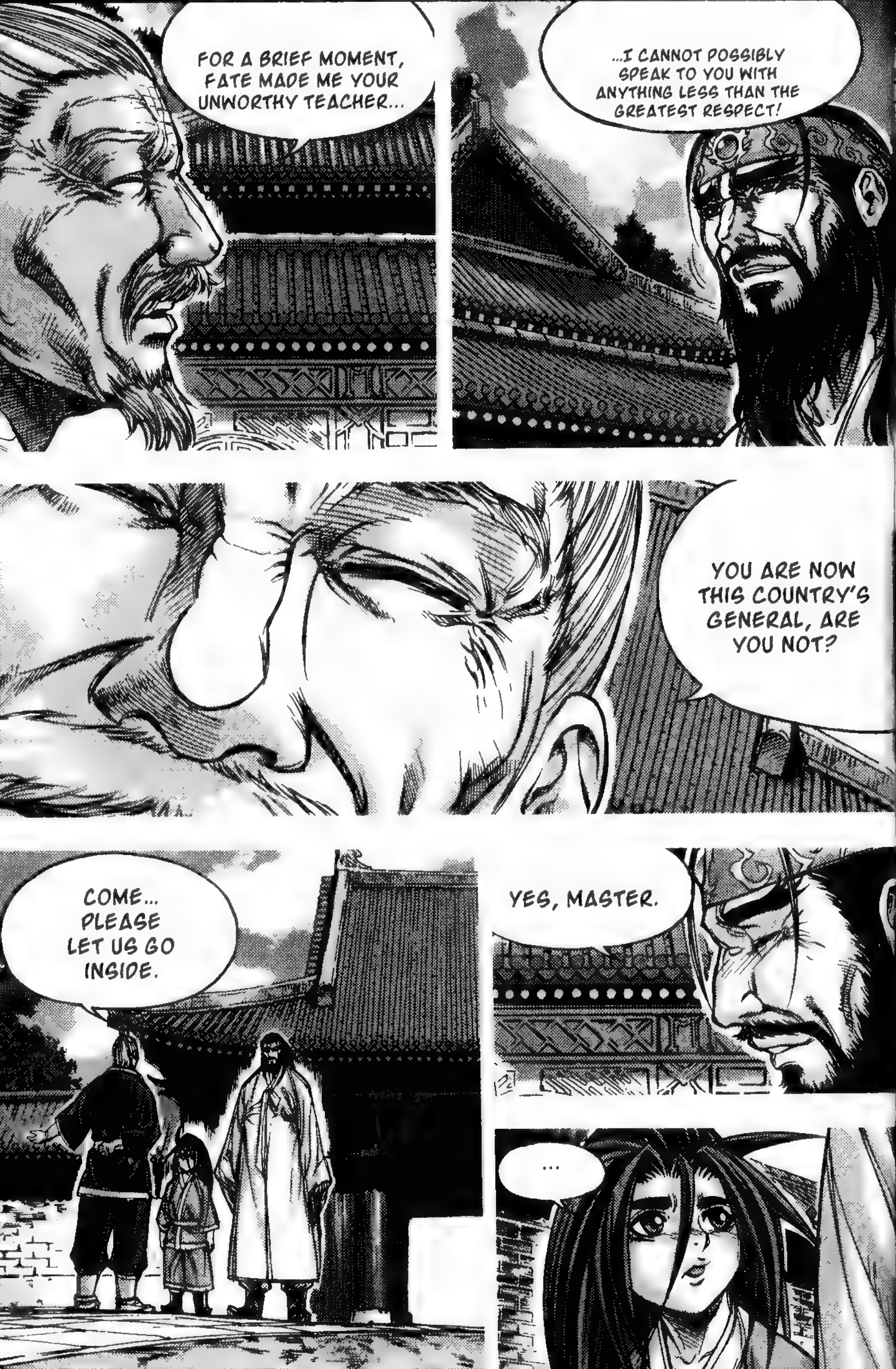

!!
STRANGERS CANNOT GO UP THESE STAIRS! TURN BACK NOW!!
JOON WON!

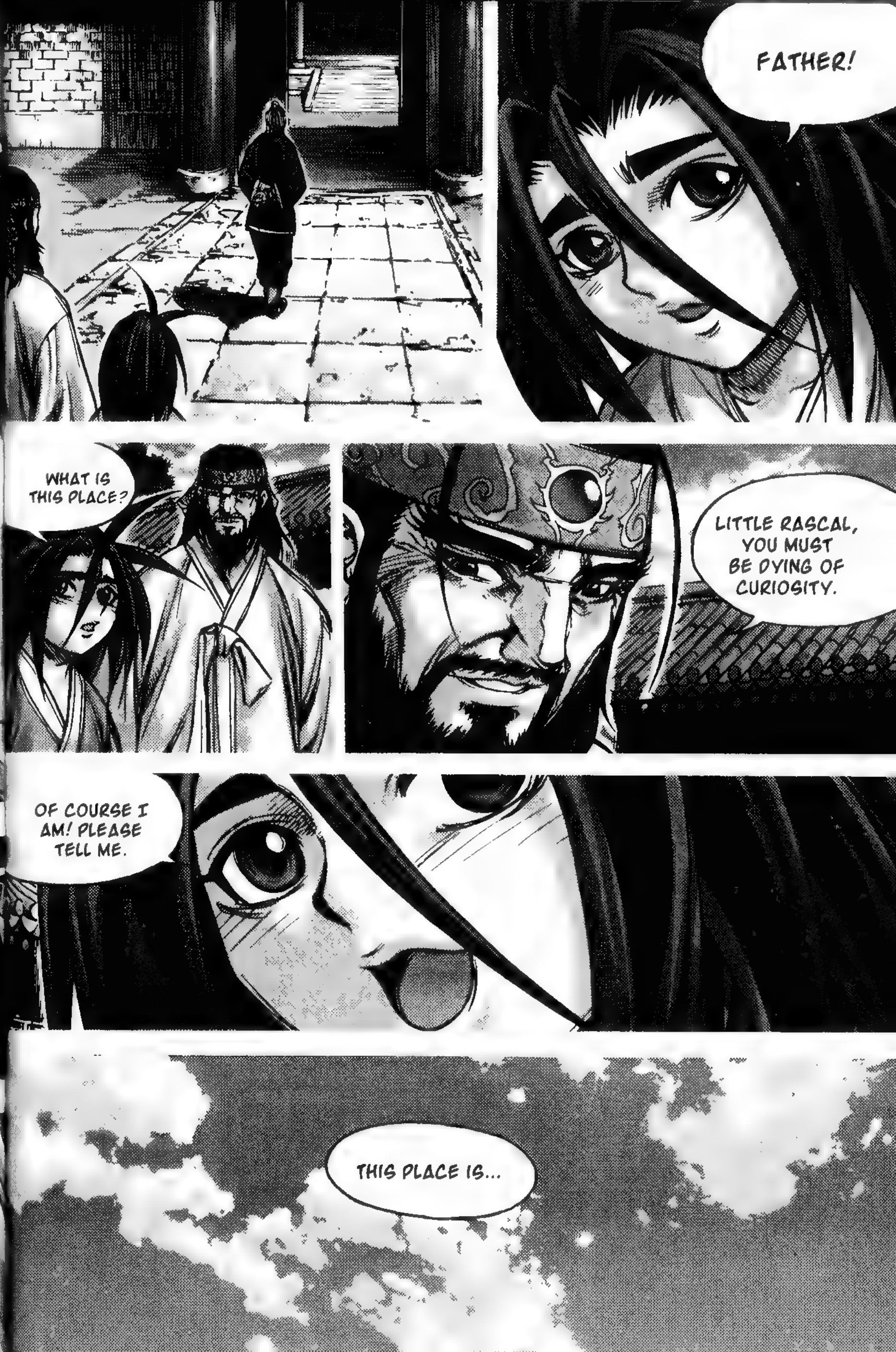

...!
AREN'T... AREN'T YOU... DONG YUB?
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, JOON WON!
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? HA HA! I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU, OLD FRIEND.

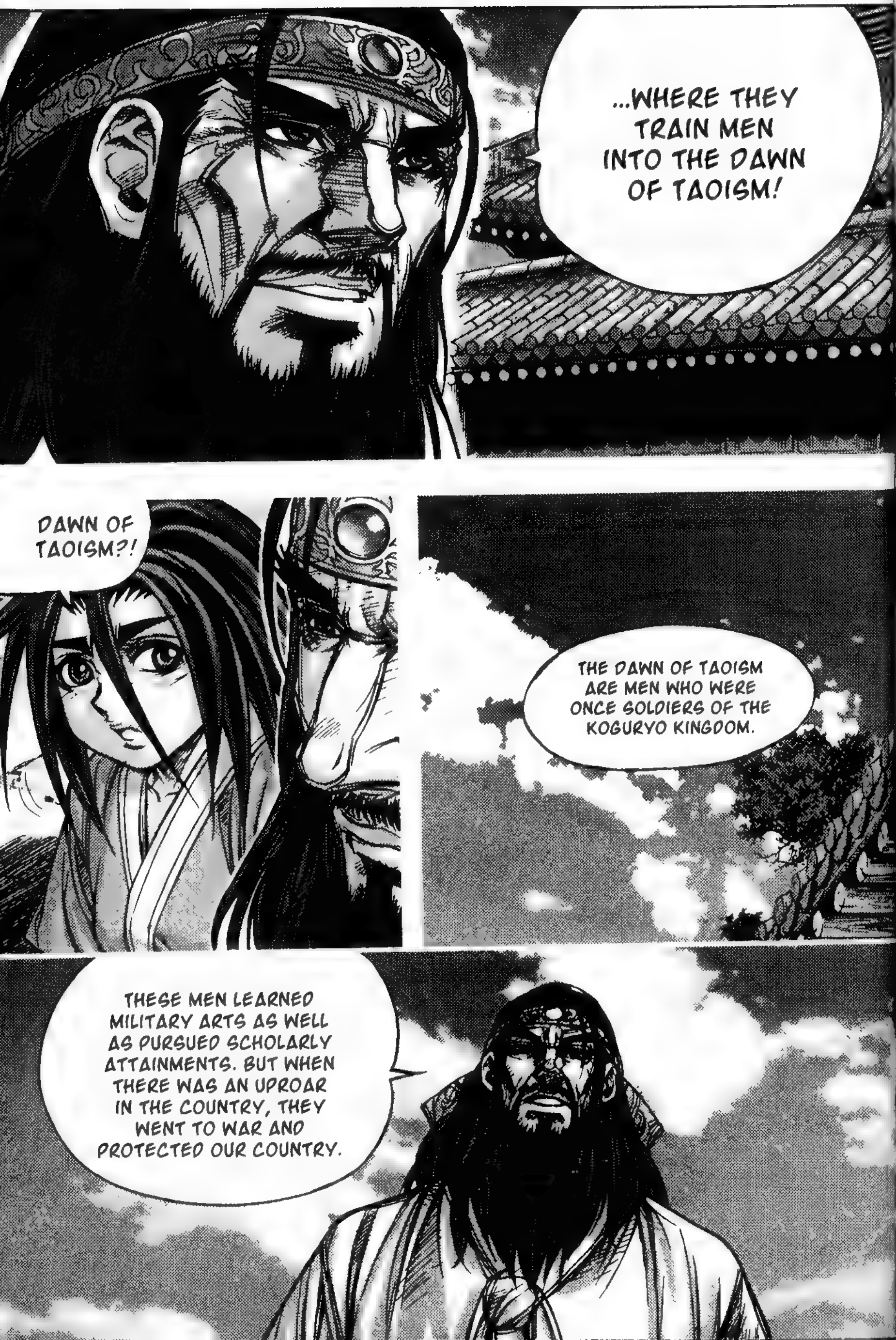

I DID HEAR THAT YOU WERE SERVING ALONGSIDE GENERAL YOUNG CHOI. BUT WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
I'VE COME TO SEE THE MASTER.
I SEE. THEN I'LL GO ON AHEAD AND LET HIM KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
THANK YOU.

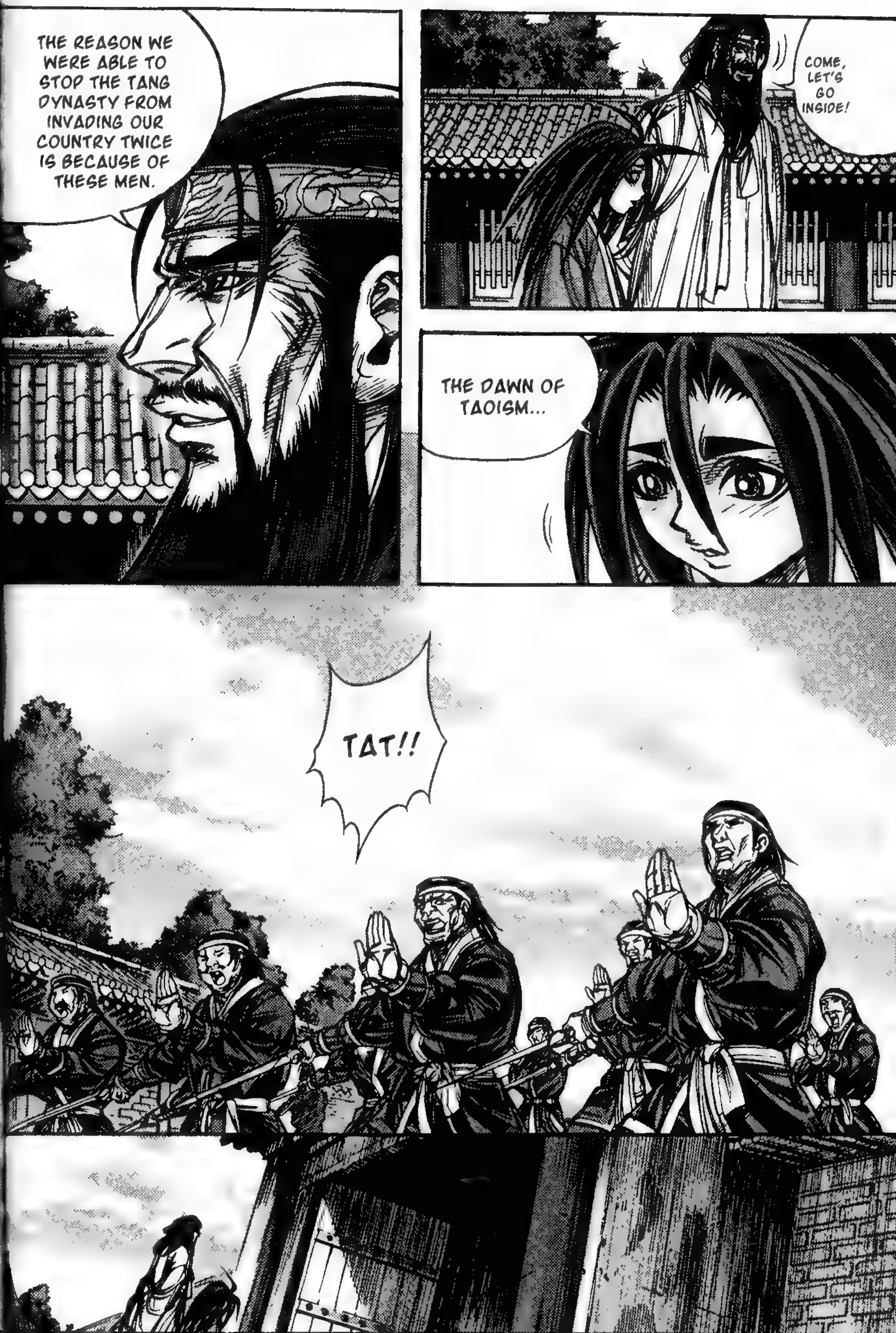

HAB!
CHAM!!
HA HA HA!

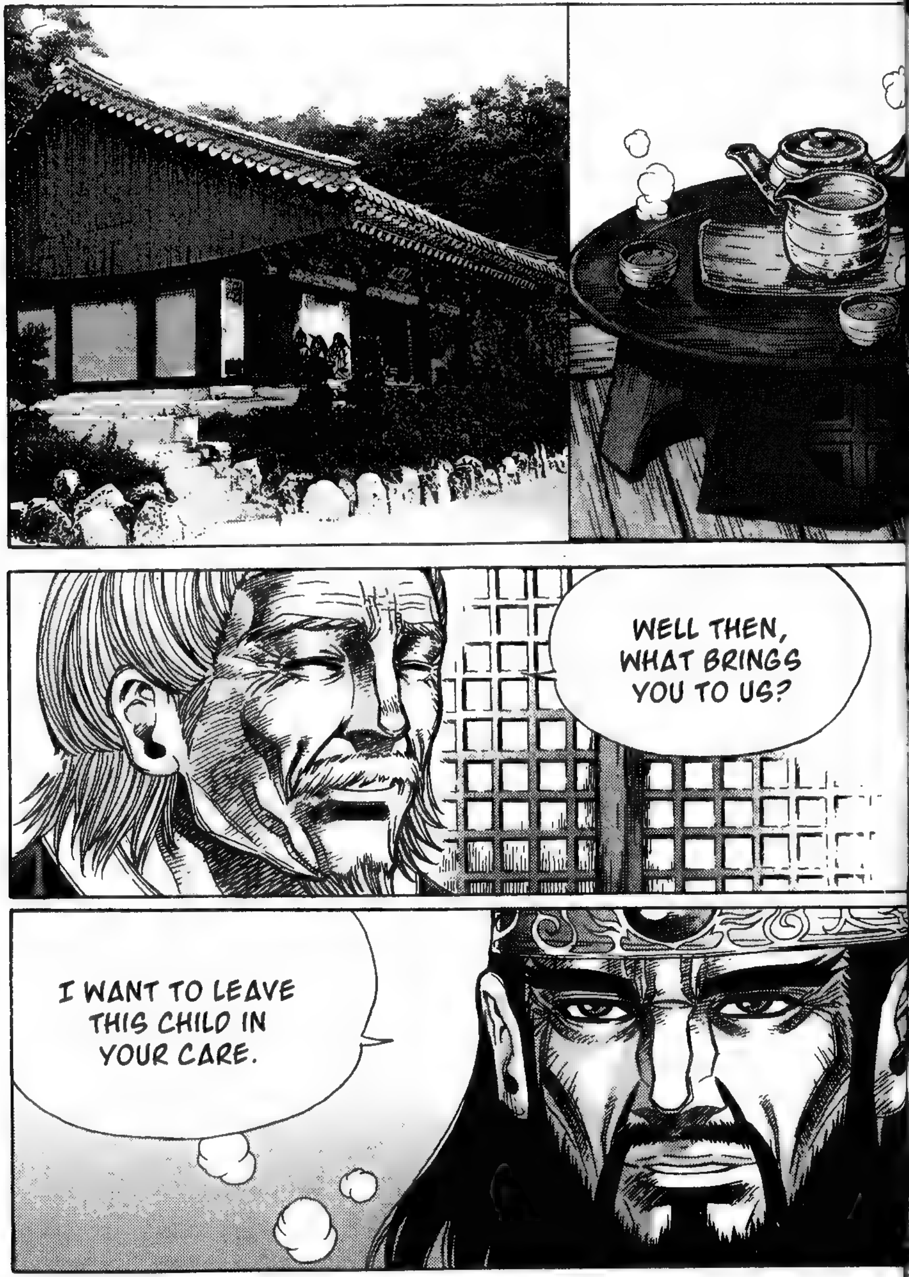

MASTER, I HOPE YOU HAVE BEEN WELL.
I'M AFRAID I'M *TOO* HEALTHY. HA HA! IT HAS BEEN A VERY LONG TIME.
MASTER, THIS IS UNCOMFORTABLE FOR ME. MUST YOU BE SO FORMAL WHEN YOU SPEAK TO ME?
I MUST.
MASTER!

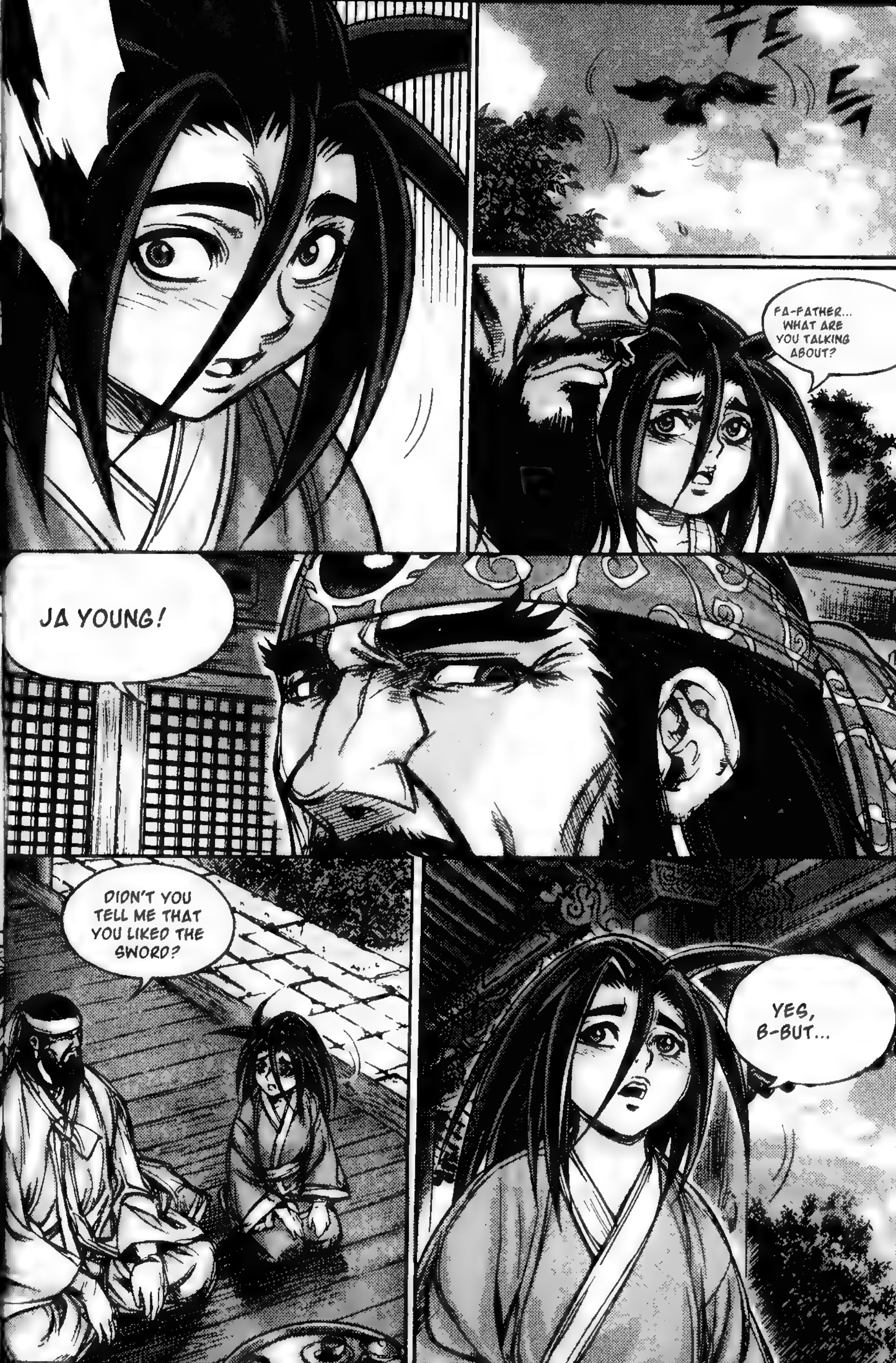

FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, FATE MADE ME YOUR UNWORTHY TEACHER...
...I CANNOT POSSIBLY SPEAK TO YOU WITH ANYTHING LESS THAN THE GREATEST RESPECT!
YOU ARE NOW THIS COUNTRY'S GENERAL, ARE YOU NOT?
COME... PLEASE LET US GO INSIDE.
YES, MASTER.
...

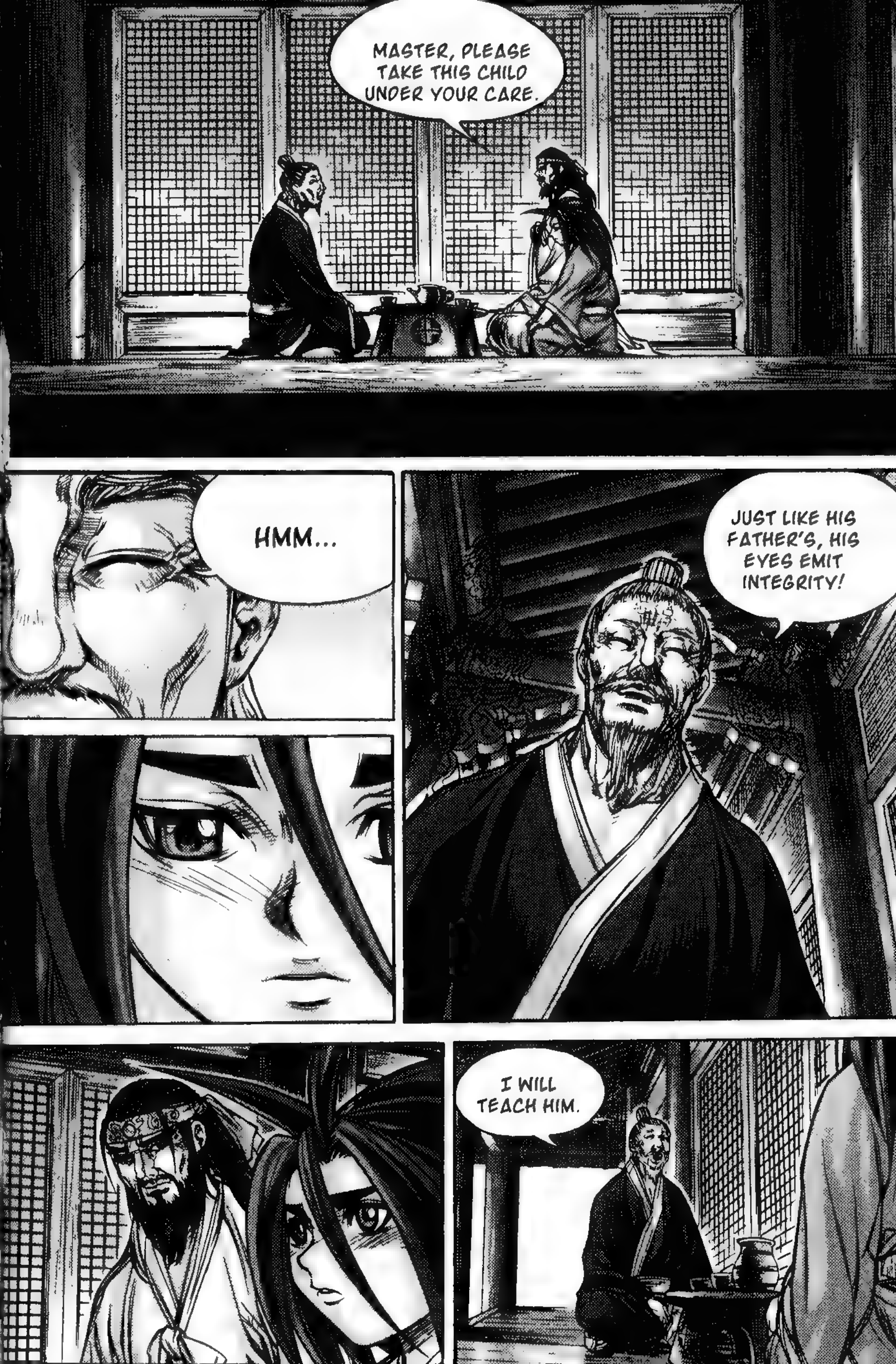

FATHER!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
LITTLE RASCAL, YOU MUST BE DYING OF CURIOSITY.
OF COURSE I AM! PLEASE TELL ME.
THIS PLACE IS...

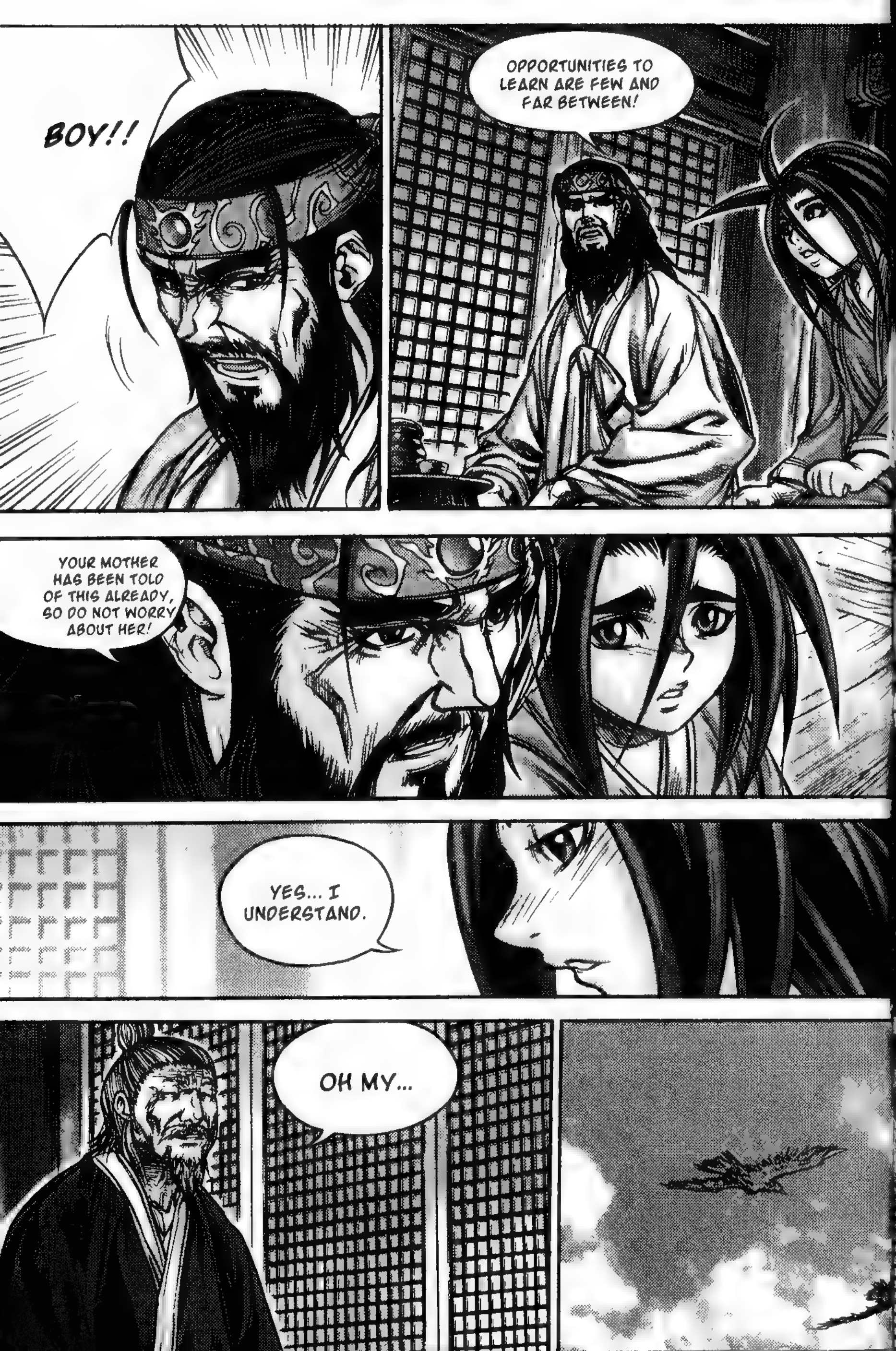

...WHERE THEY TRAIN MEN INTO THE DAWN OF TAOISM!
DAWN OF TAOISM?!
THE DAWN OF TAOISM ARE MEN WHO WERE ONCE SOLDIERS OF THE KOGURYO KINGDOM.
THESE MEN LEARNED MILITARY ARTS AS WELL AS PURSUED SCHOLARLY ATTAINMENTS. BUT WHEN THERE WAS AN UPROAR IN THE COUNTRY, THEY WENT TO WAR AND PROTECTED OUR COUNTRY.

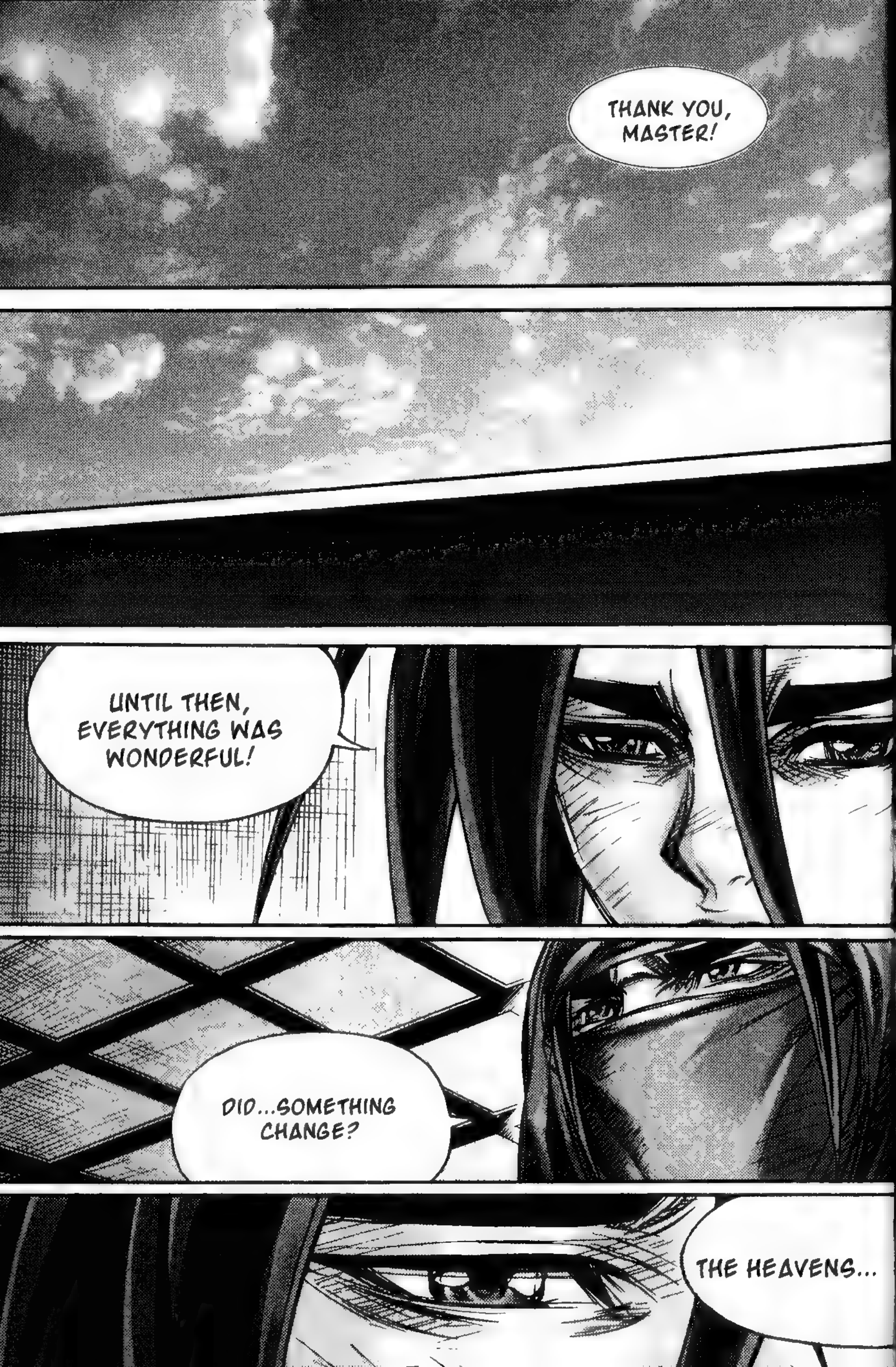

THE REASON WE WERE ABLE TO STOP THE TANG DYNASTY FROM INVADING OUR COUNTRY TWICE IS BECAUSE OF THESE MEN.
COME, LET'S GO INSIDE!
THE DAWN OF TAOISM...
TAT!!

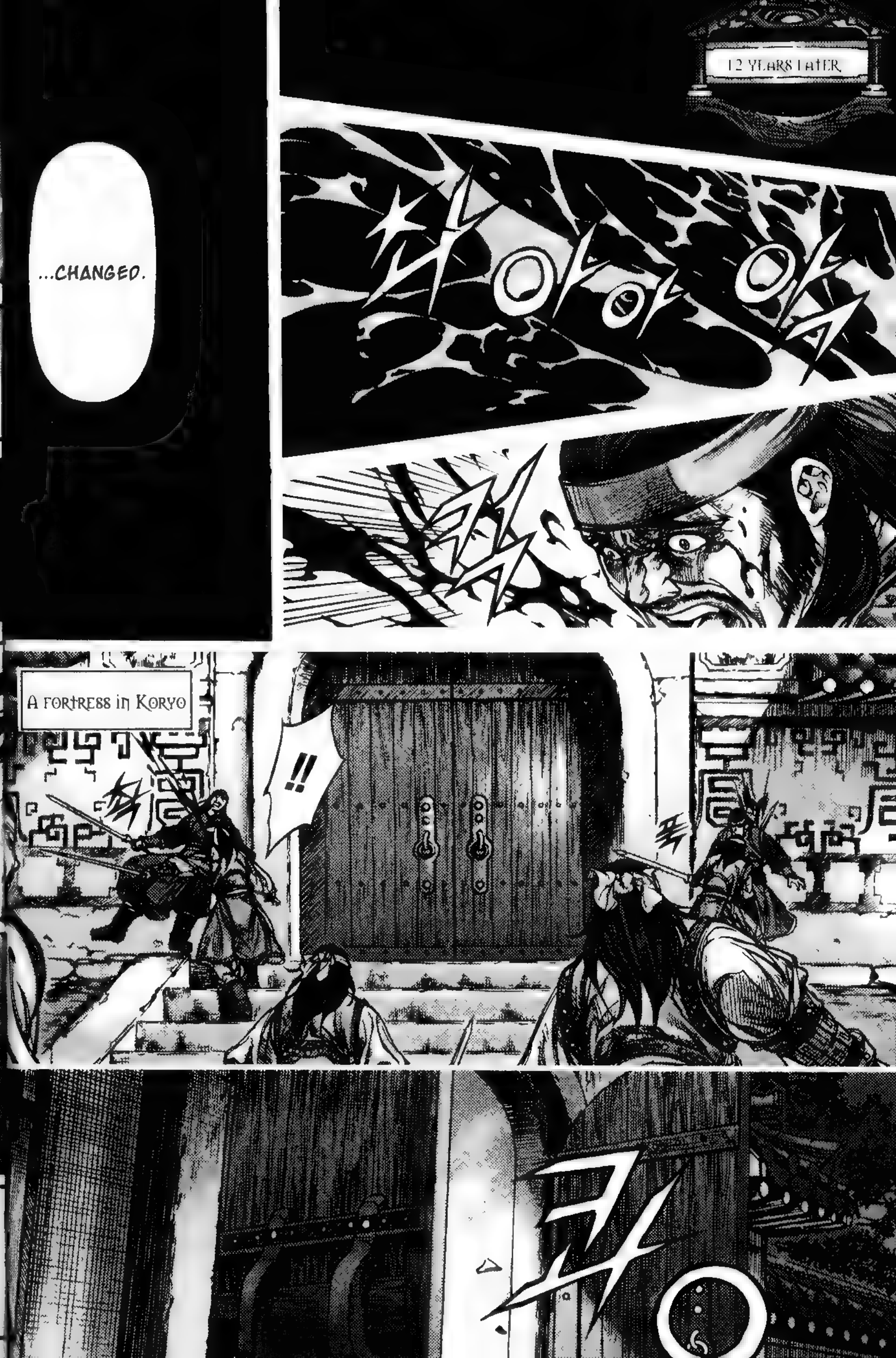

WELL THEN, WHAT BRINGS YOU TO US?
I WANT TO LEAVE THIS CHILD IN YOUR CARE.

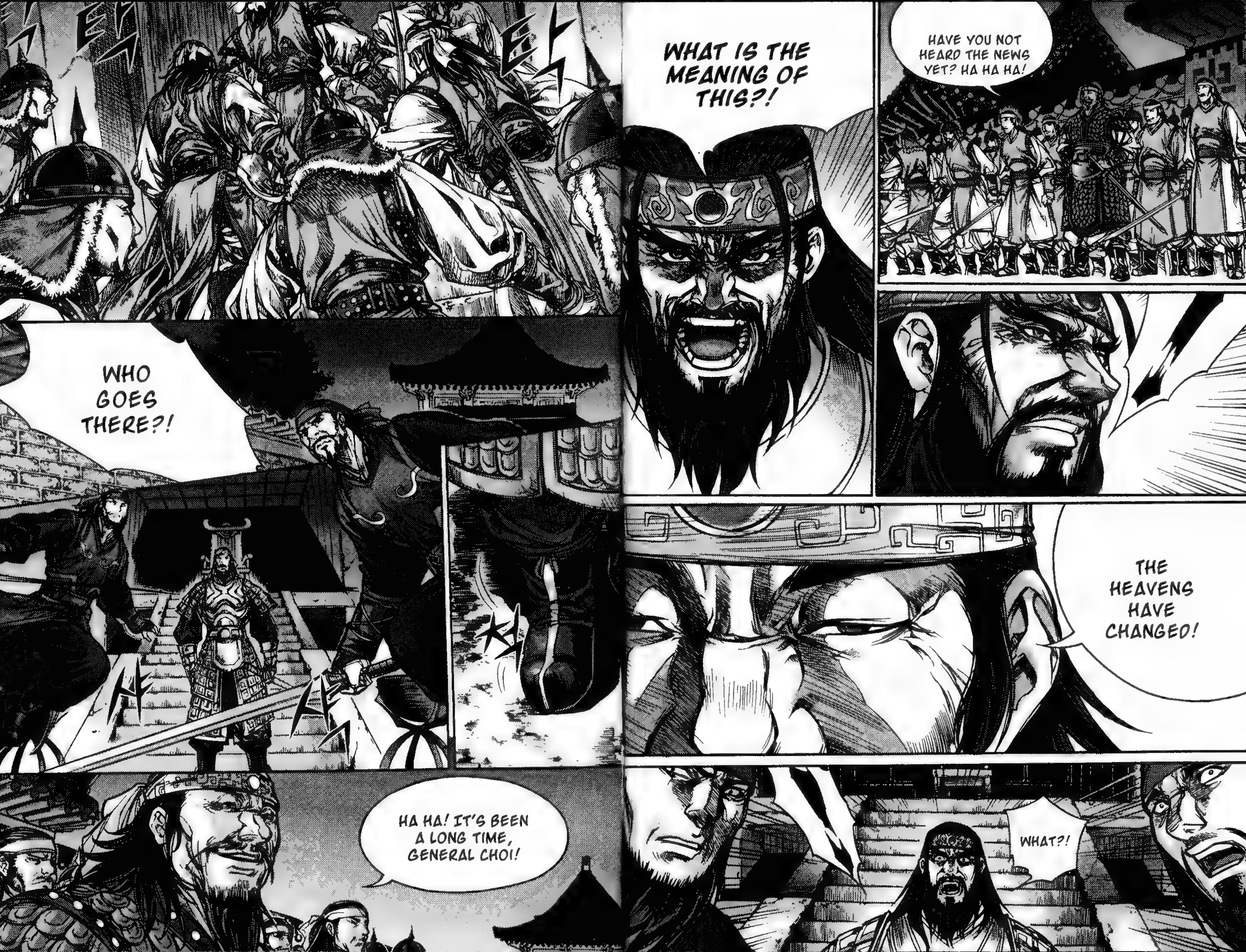

FA-FATHER... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
JA YOUNG!
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT YOU LIKED THE SWORD?
YES, B-BUT...


MASTER, PLEASE TAKE THIS CHILD UNDER YOUR CARE.
HMM...
JUST LIKE HIS FATHER'S, HIS EYES EMIT INTEGRITY!
I WILL TEACH HIM.


BOY!!
OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN!
YOUR MOTHER HAS BEEN TOLD OF THIS ALREADY, SO DO NOT WORRY ABOUT HER!
YES... I UNDERSTAND.
OH MY...


THANK YOU, MASTER!
UNTIL THEN, EVERYTHING WAS WONDERFUL!
DID...SOMETHING CHANGE?
THE HEAVENS...


...CHANGED.
12 YEARS LATER
A fortress in Koryo
!!


타
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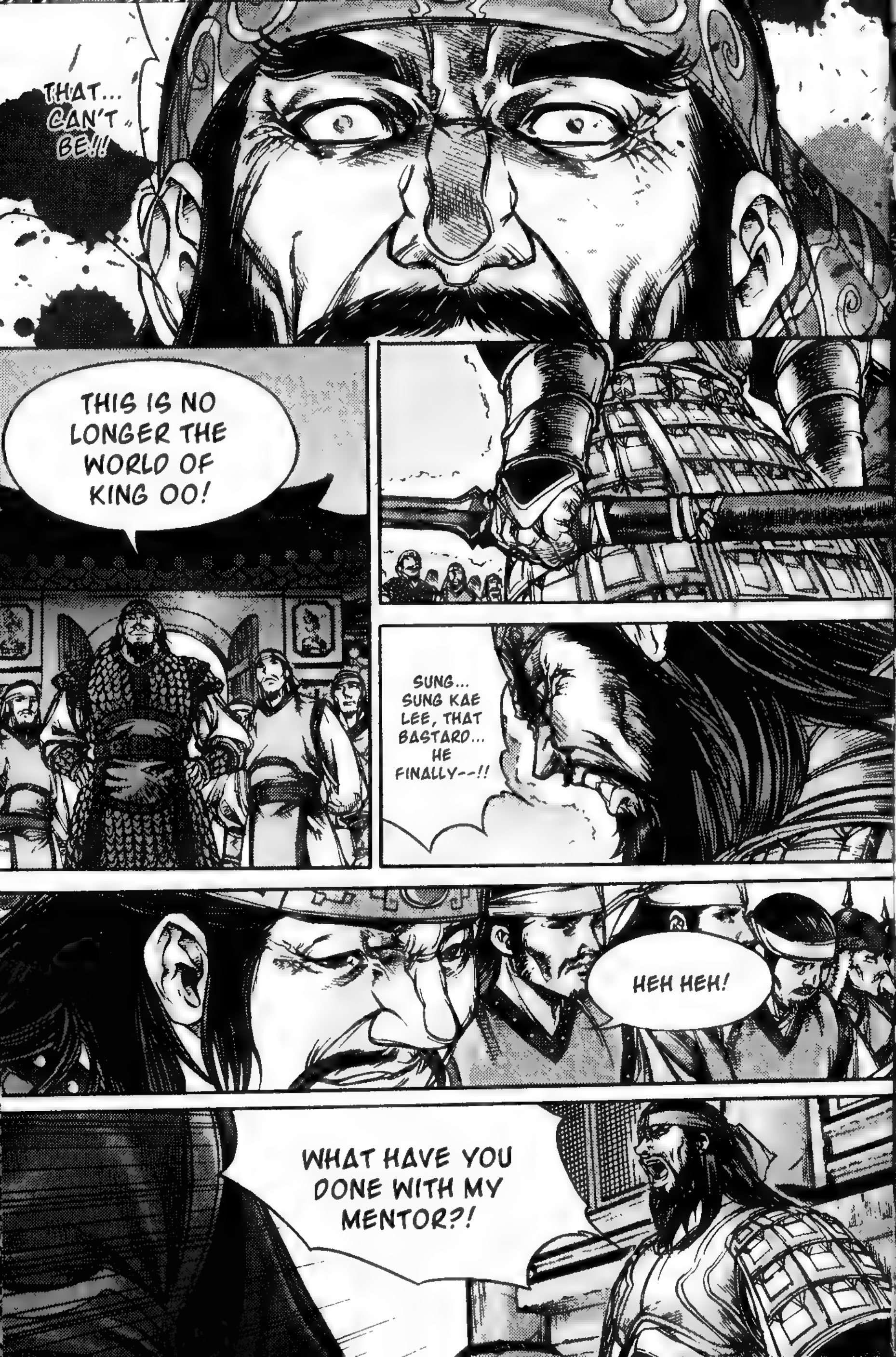
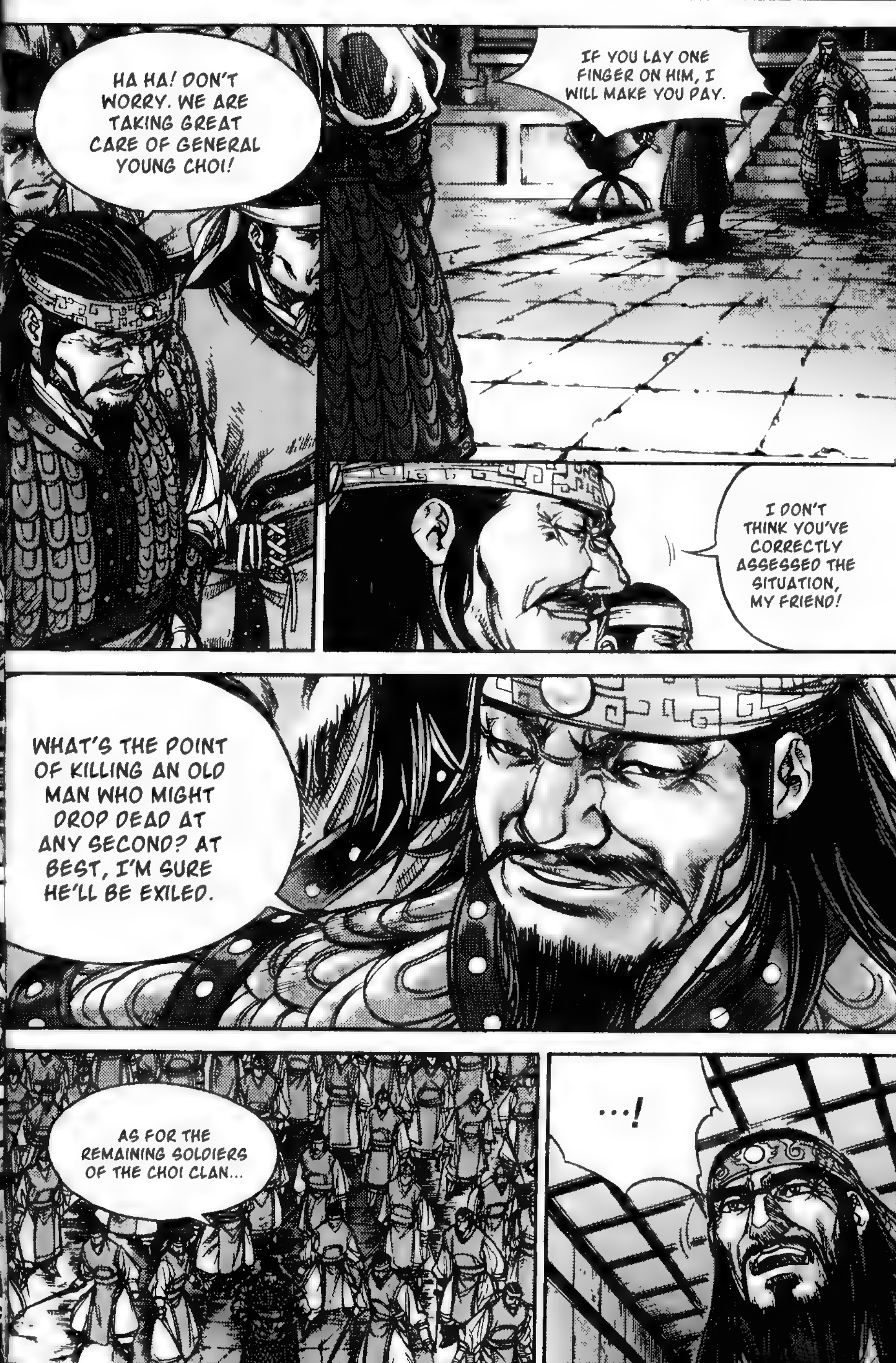
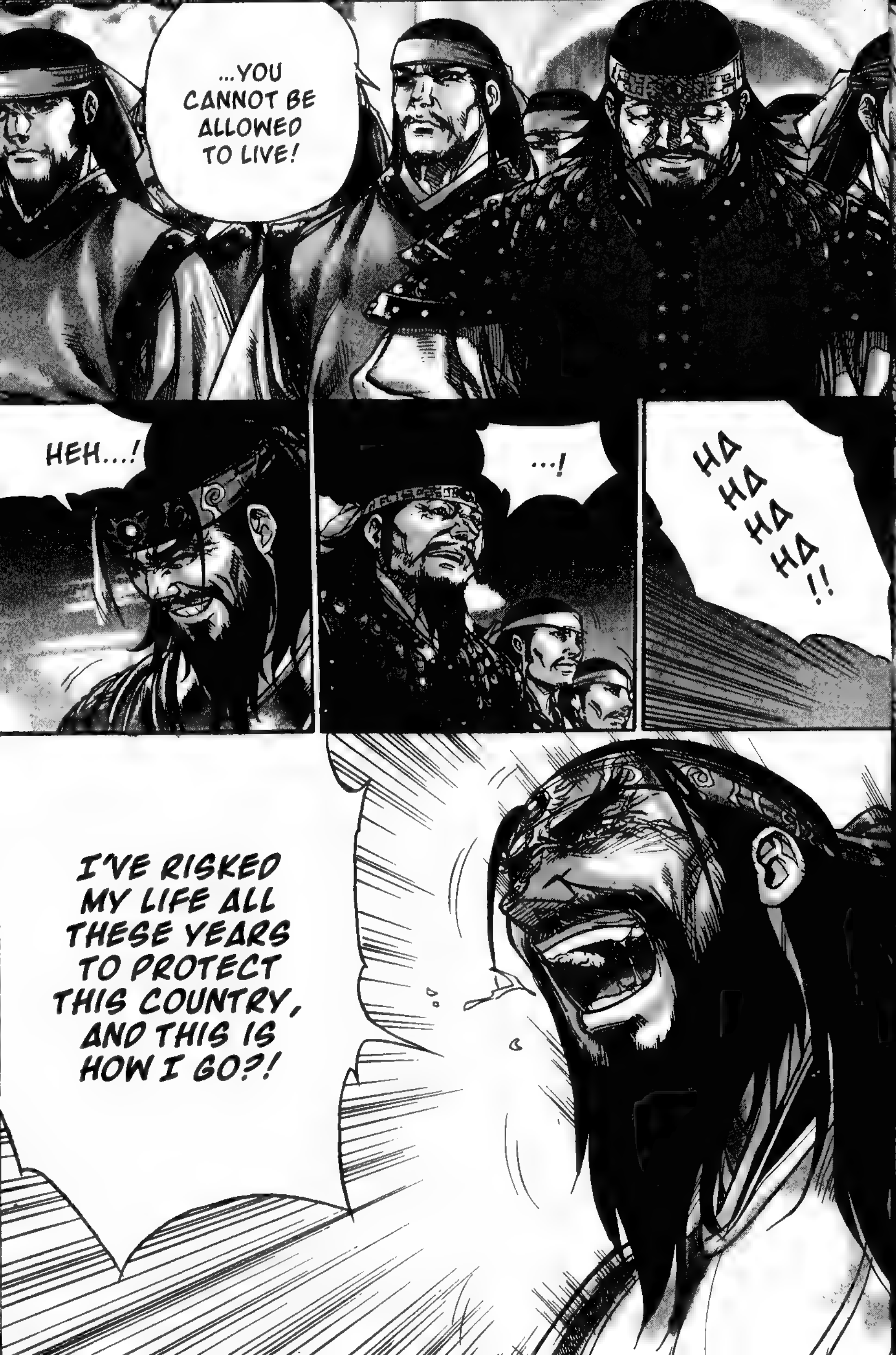
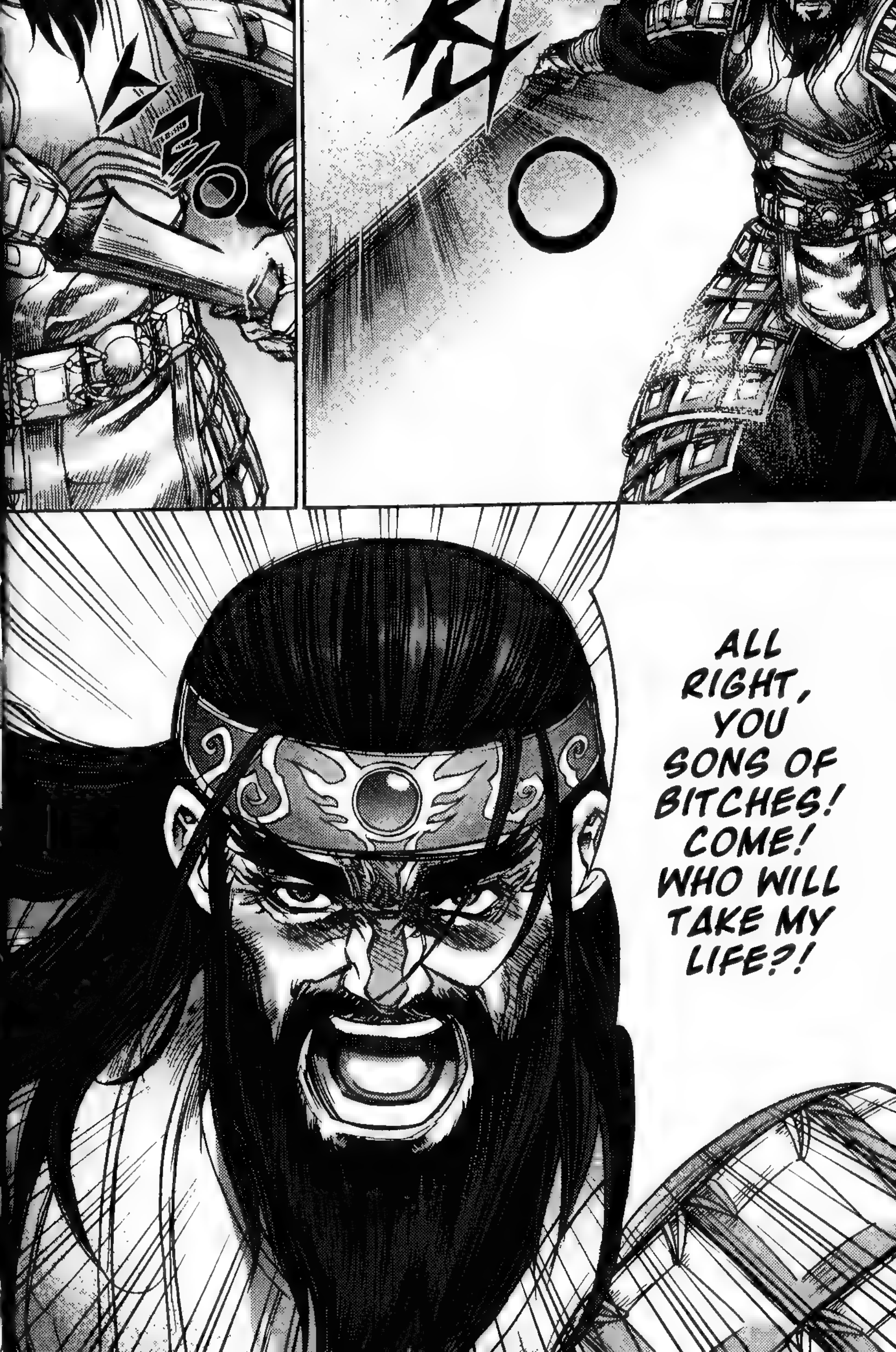
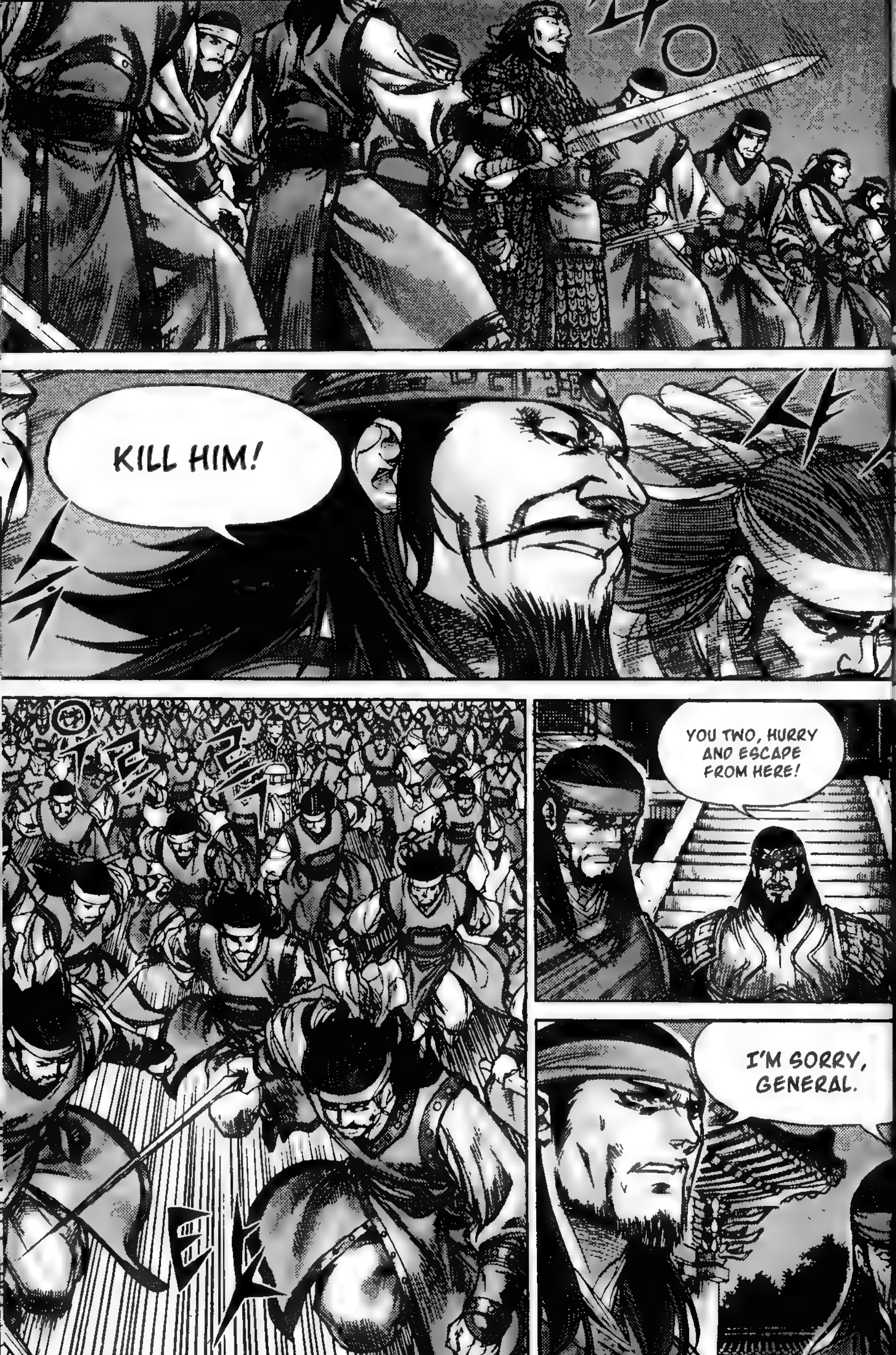
WHO GOES THERE?!
HA HA! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, GENERAL CHOI!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
HAVE YOU NOT HEARD THE NEWS YET? HA HA HA!
THE HEAVENS HAVE CHANGED!
WHAT?!

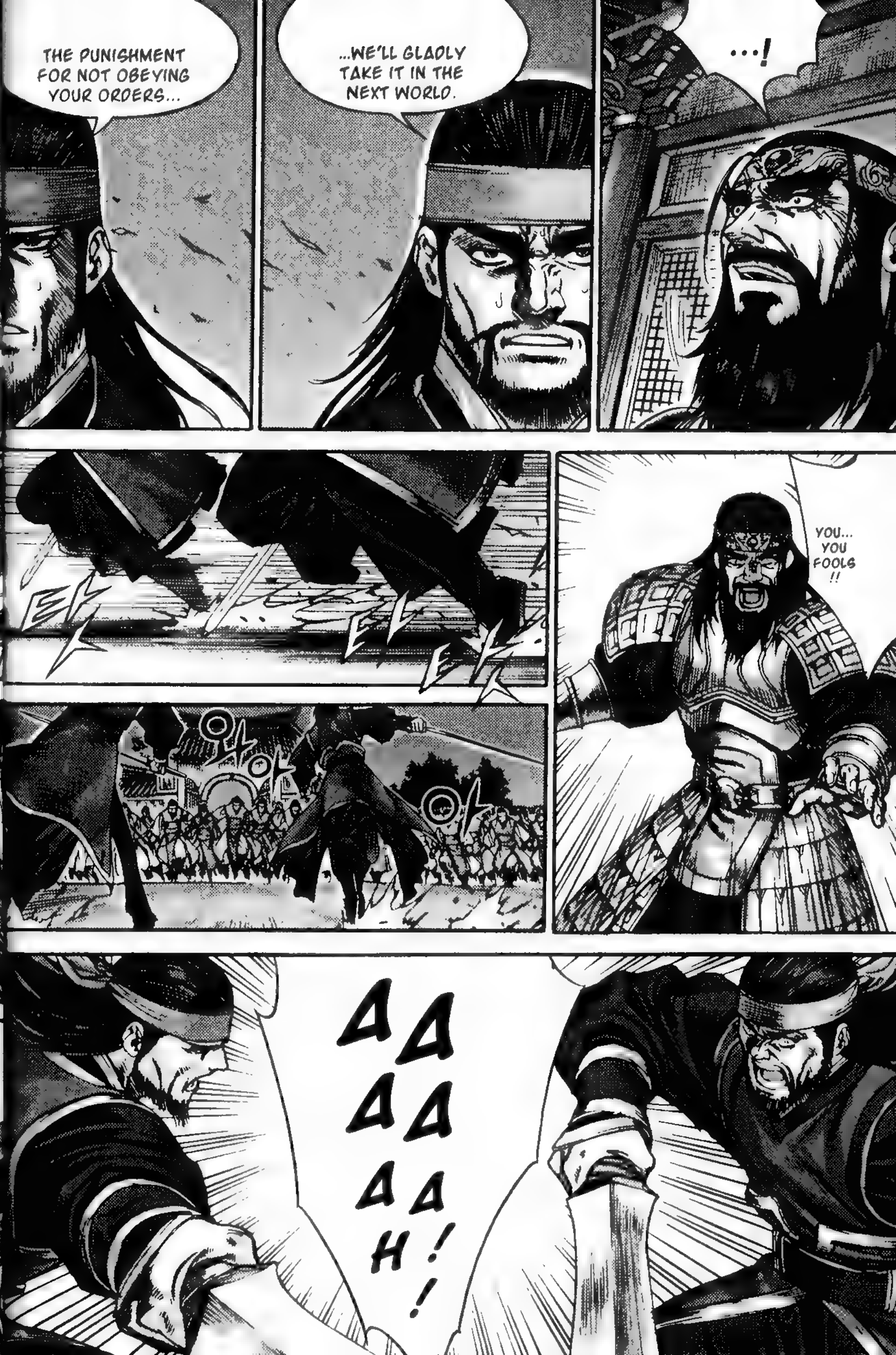

THAT... CAN'T BE!!
THIS IS NO LONGER THE WORLD OF KING OO!
SUNG... SUNG KAE LEE, THAT BASTARD... HE FINALLY--!!
HEH HEH!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH MY MENTOR?!

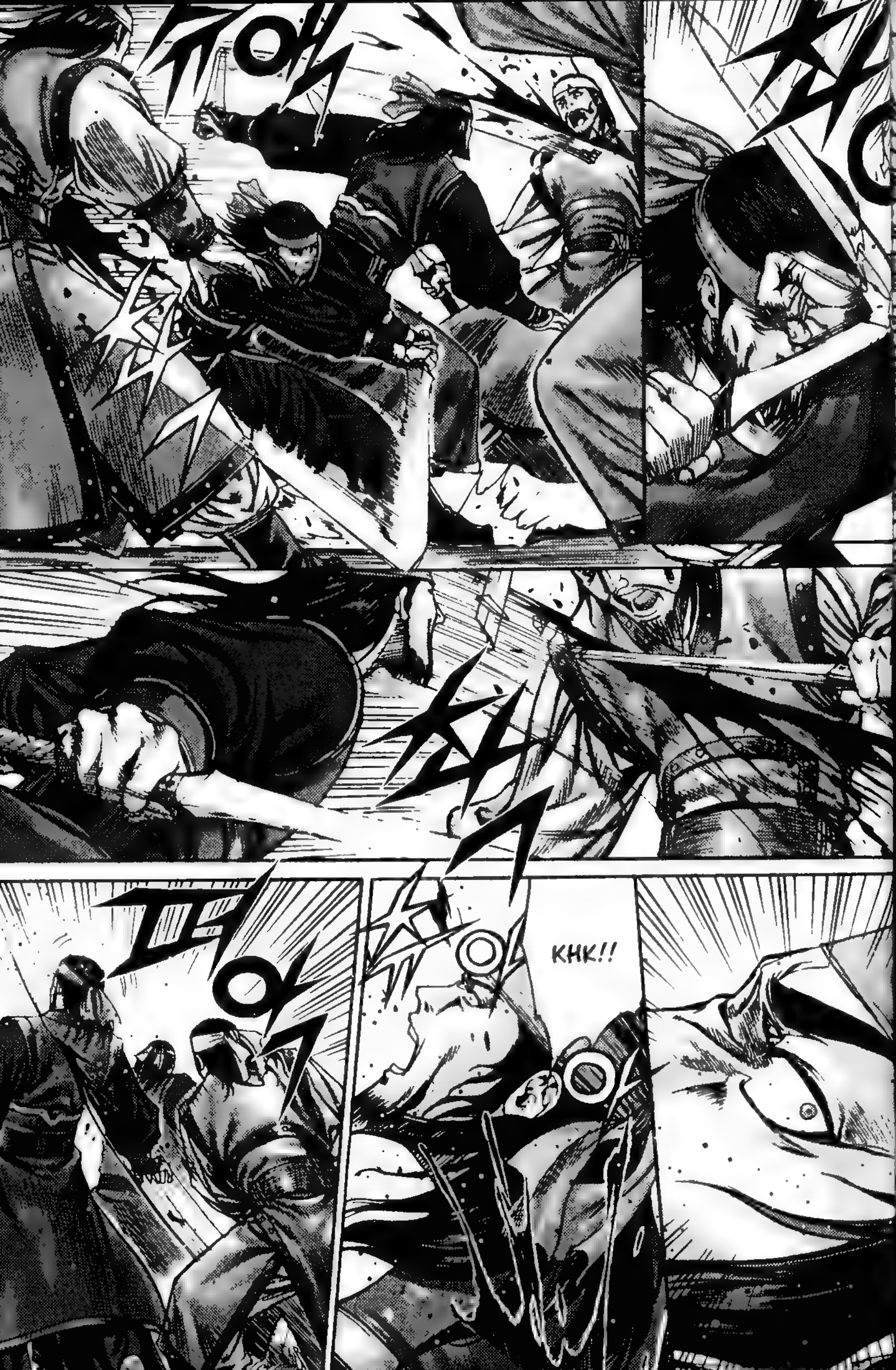

HA HA! DON'T WORRY. WE ARE TAKING GREAT CARE OF GENERAL YOUNG CHOI!
IF YOU LAY ONE FINGER ON HIM, I WILL MAKE YOU PAY.
I DON'T THINK YOU'VE CORRECTLY ASSESSED THE SITUATION, MY FRIEND!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF KILLING AN OLD MAN WHO MIGHT DROP DEAD AT ANY SECOND? AT BEST, I'M SURE HE'LL BE EXILED.
AS FOR THE REMAINING SOLDIERS OF THE CHOI CLAN...
...!

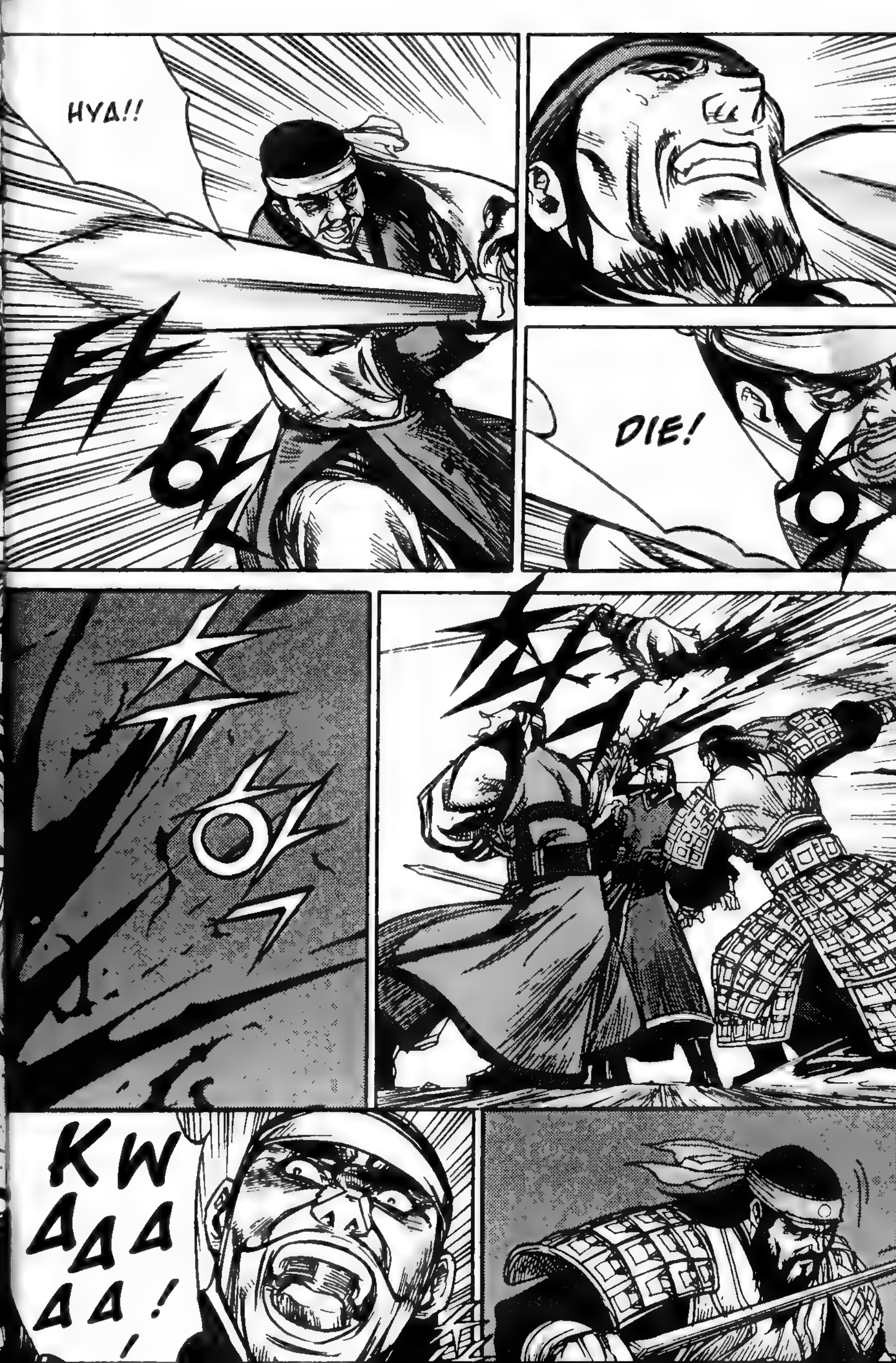

...YOU CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO LIVE!
HEH...!
...!
HA HA HA HA!!
I'VE RISKED MY LIFE ALL THESE YEARS TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY, AND THIS IS HOW I GO?!

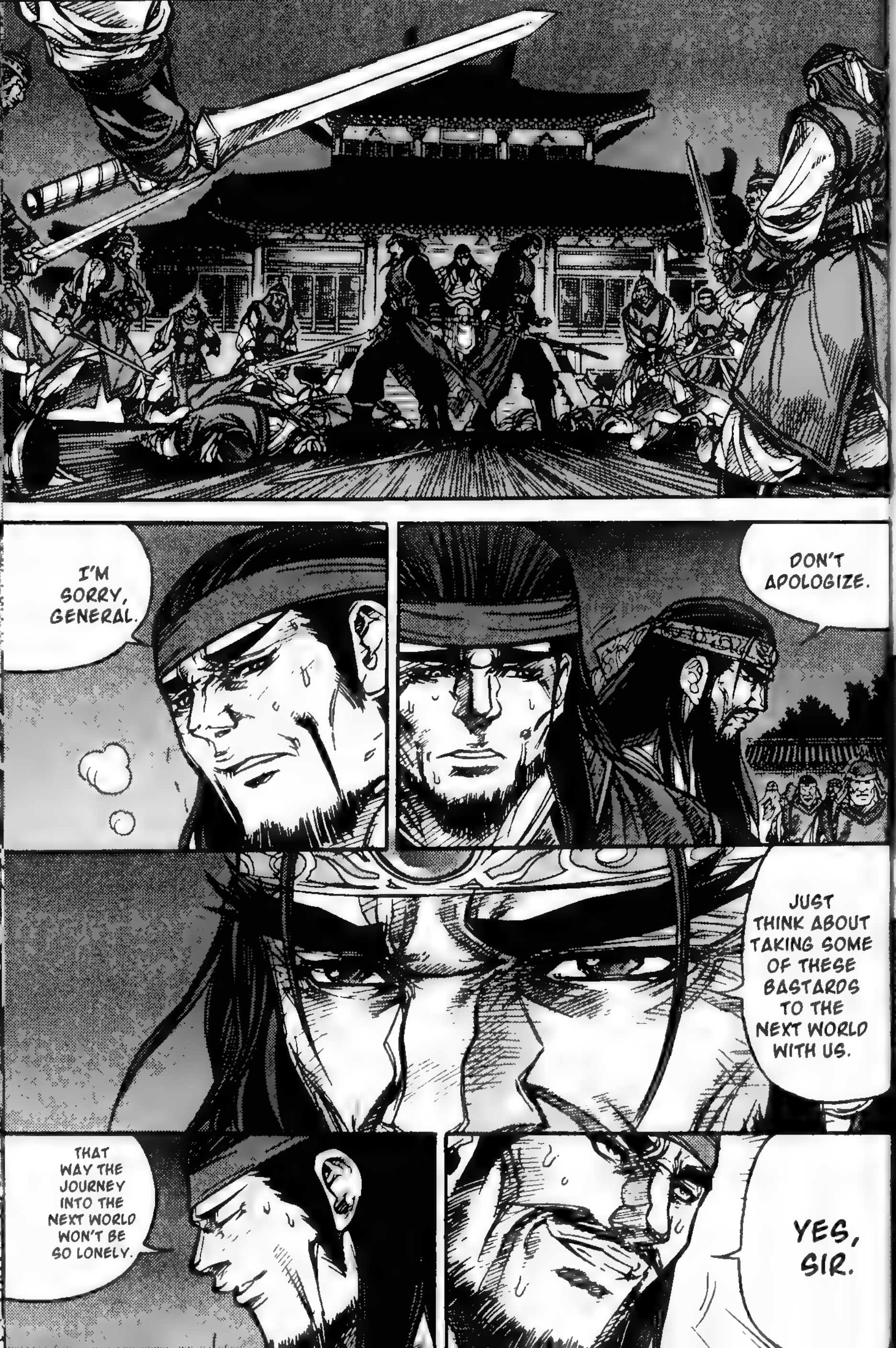

ALL RIGHT, YOU SONS OF BITCHES! COME! WHO WILL TAKE MY LIFE?!

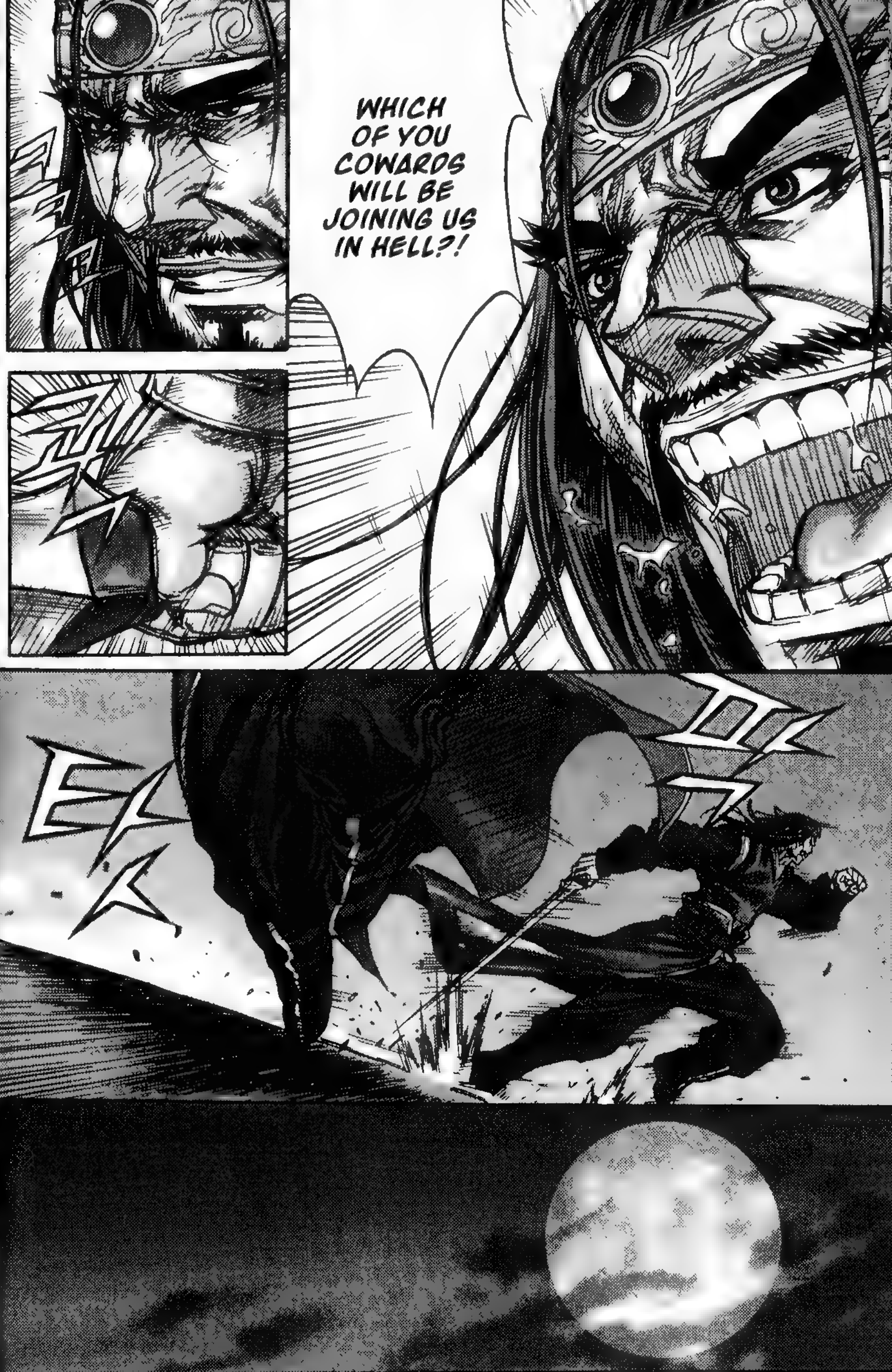

KILL HIM!
YOU TWO, HURRY AND ESCAPE FROM HERE!
I'M SORRY, GENERAL.

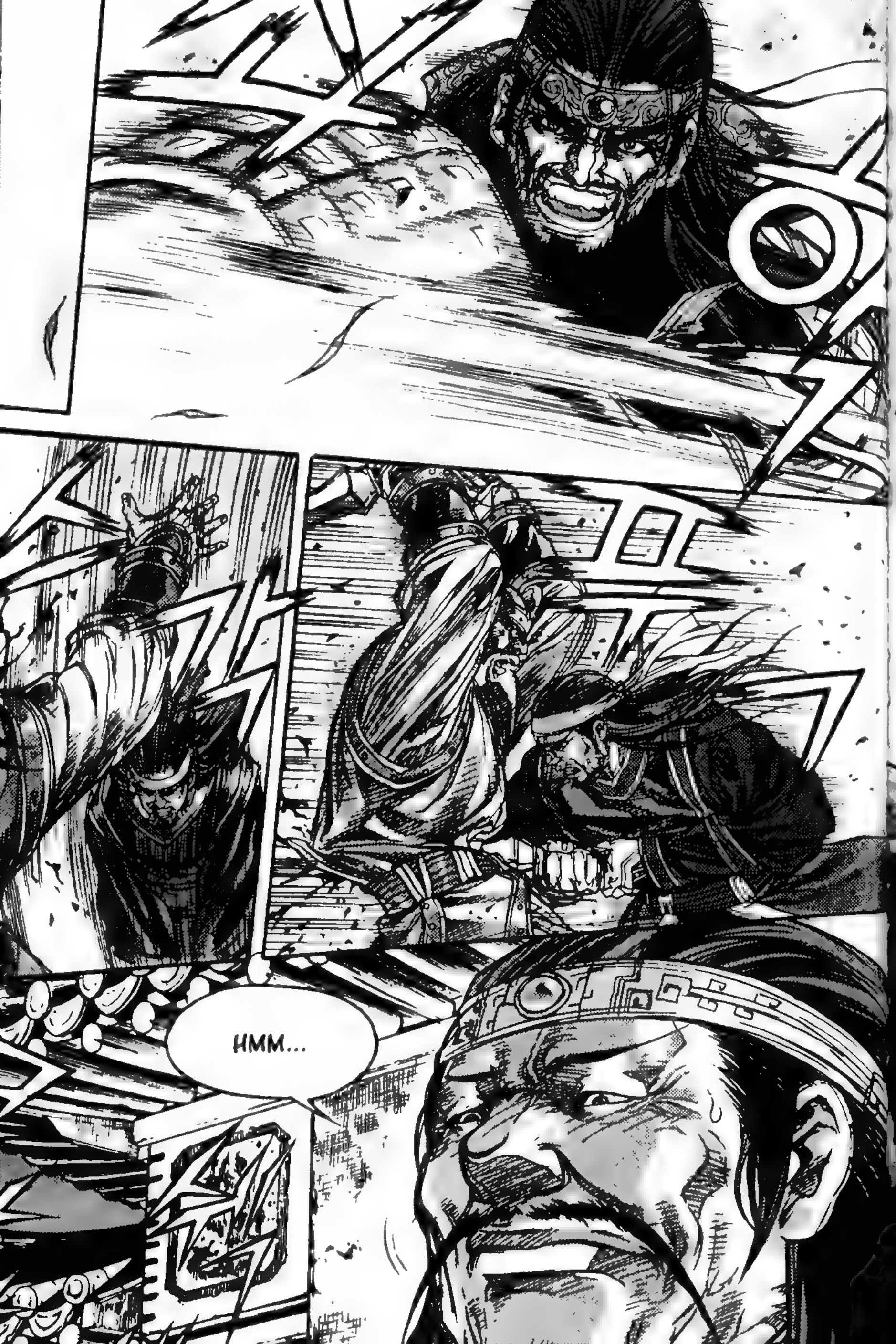

THE PUNISHMENT FOR NOT OBEYING YOUR ORDERS...
...WE'LL GLADLY TAKE IT IN THE NEXT WORLD.
...!
YOU... YOU FOOLS!!
AAAAAAAH!!

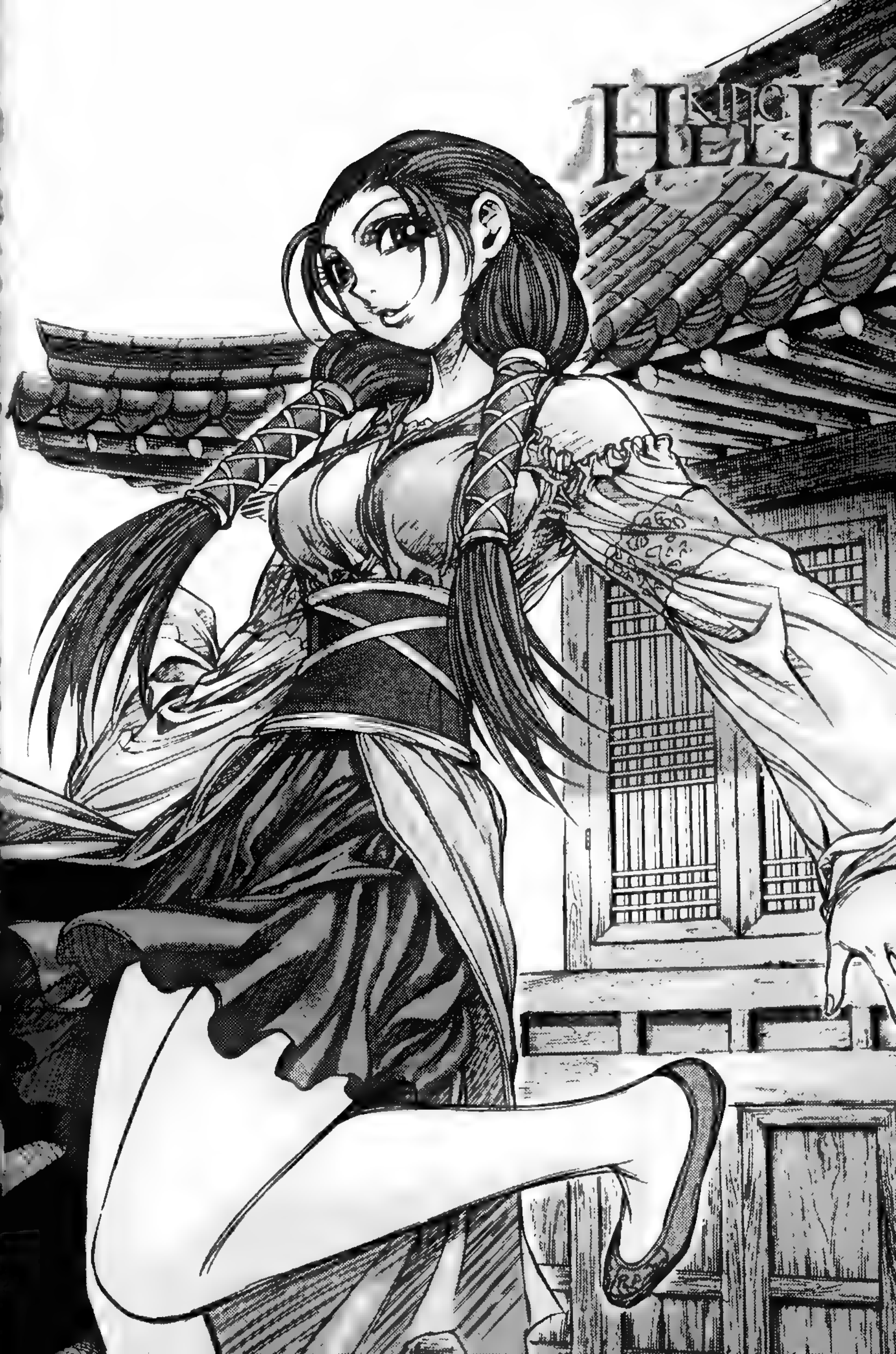

KHK!!

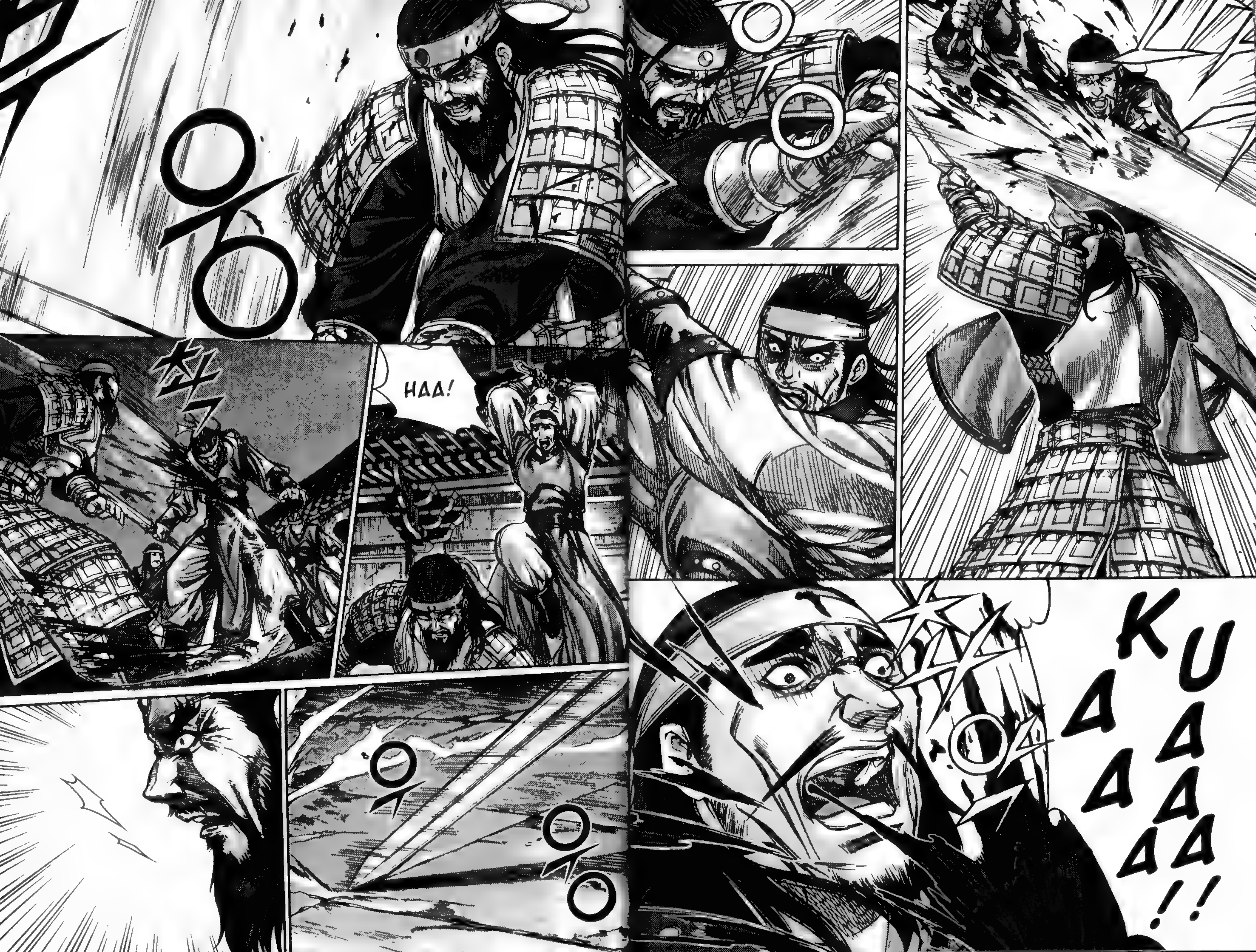

HYA!!
DIE!
KWAAAAAA!

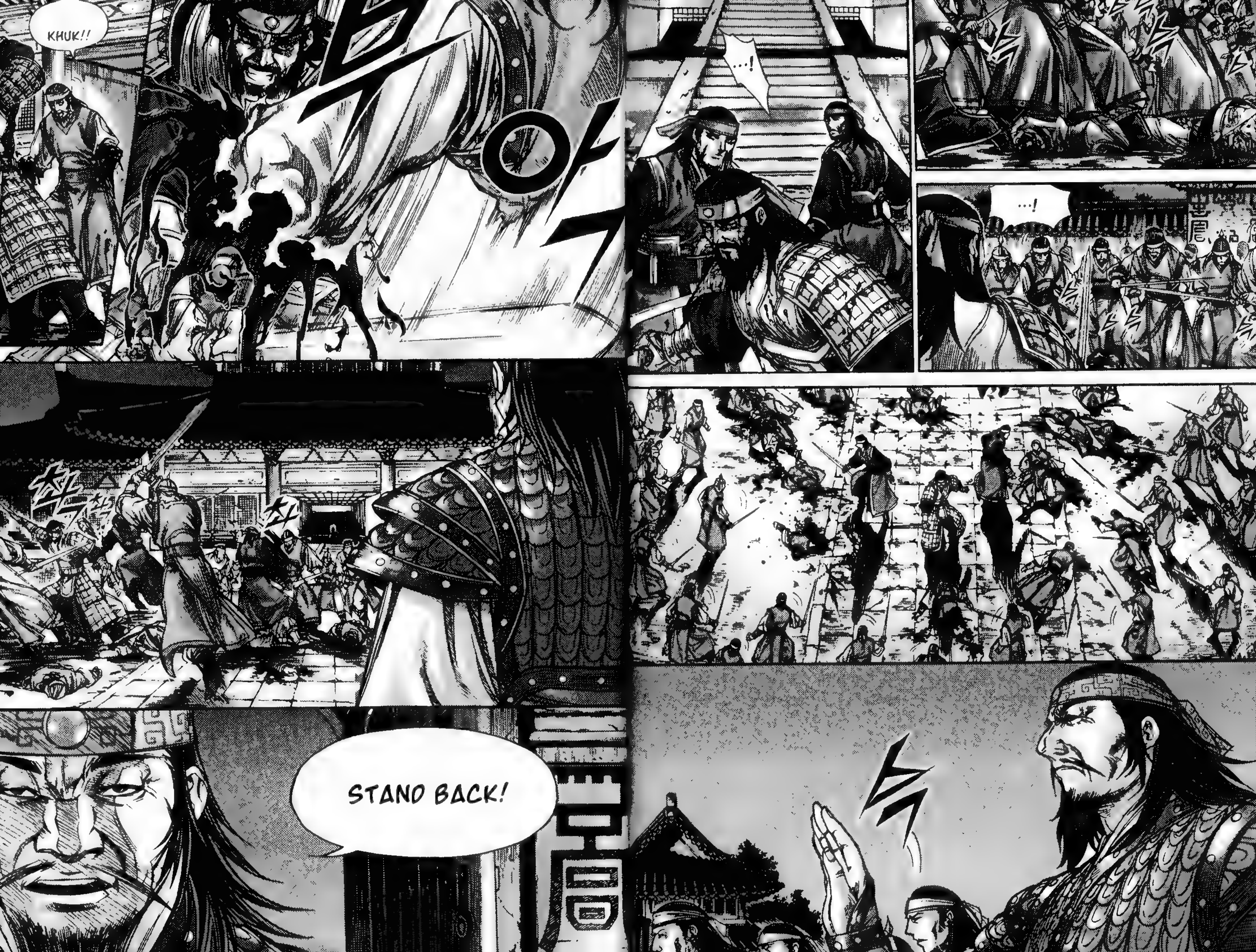

I'M SORRY, GENERAL.
DON'T APOLOGIZE.
JUST THINK ABOUT TAKING SOME OF THESE BASTARDS TO THE NEXT WORLD WITH US.
THAT WAY THE JOURNEY INTO THE NEXT WORLD WON'T BE SO LONELY.
YES, SIR.

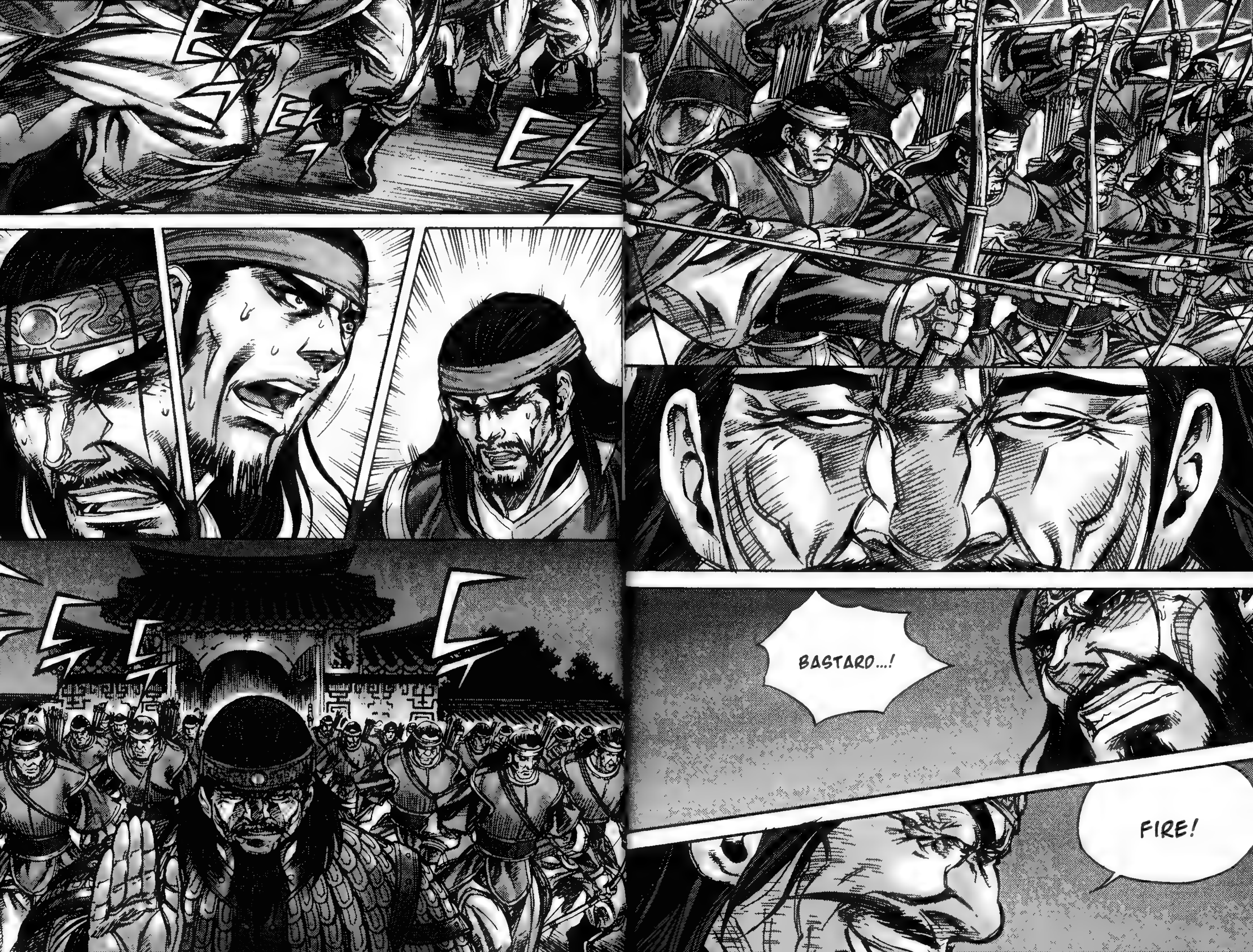

WHICH OF YOU COWARDS WILL BE JOINING US IN HELL?!

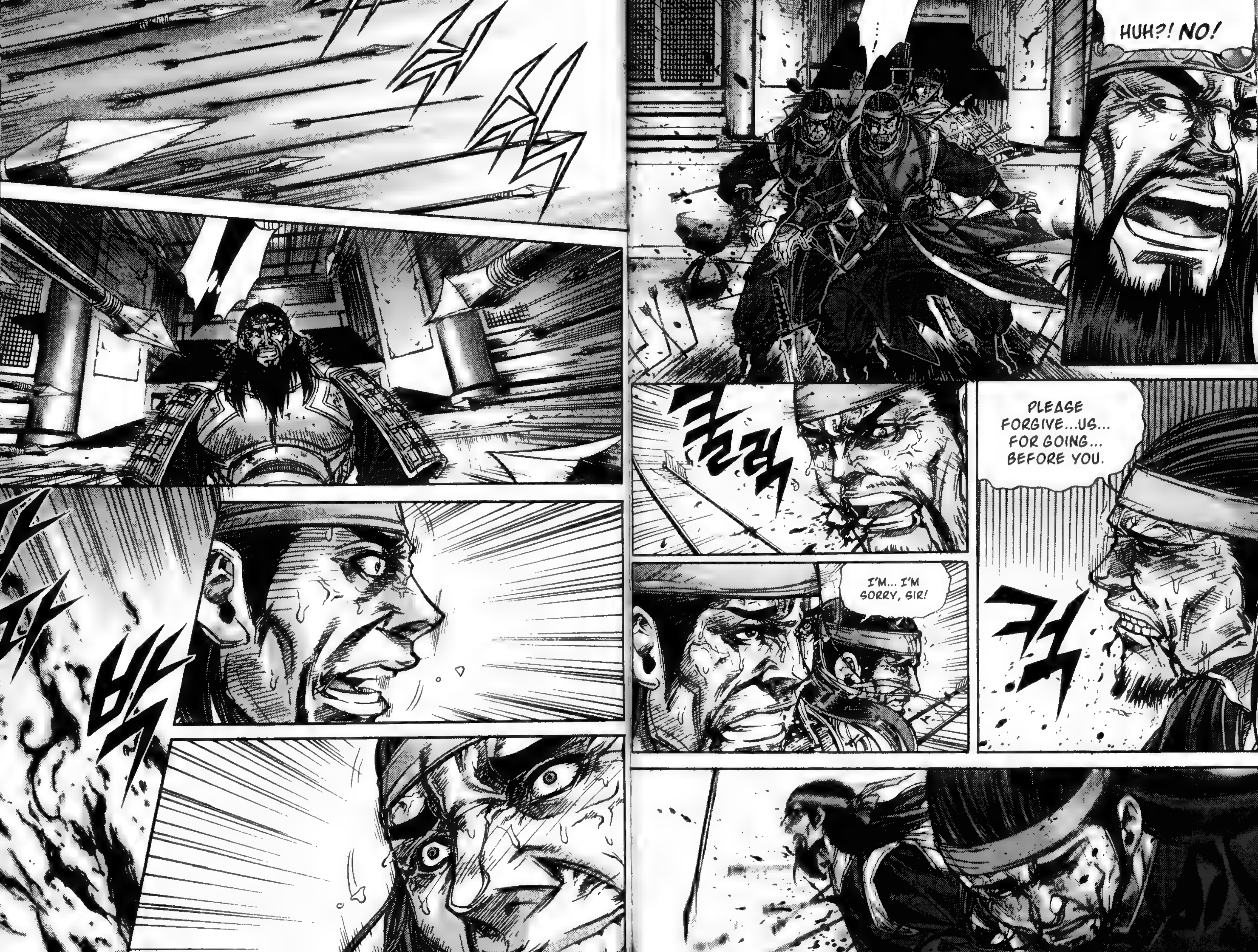

HMM...

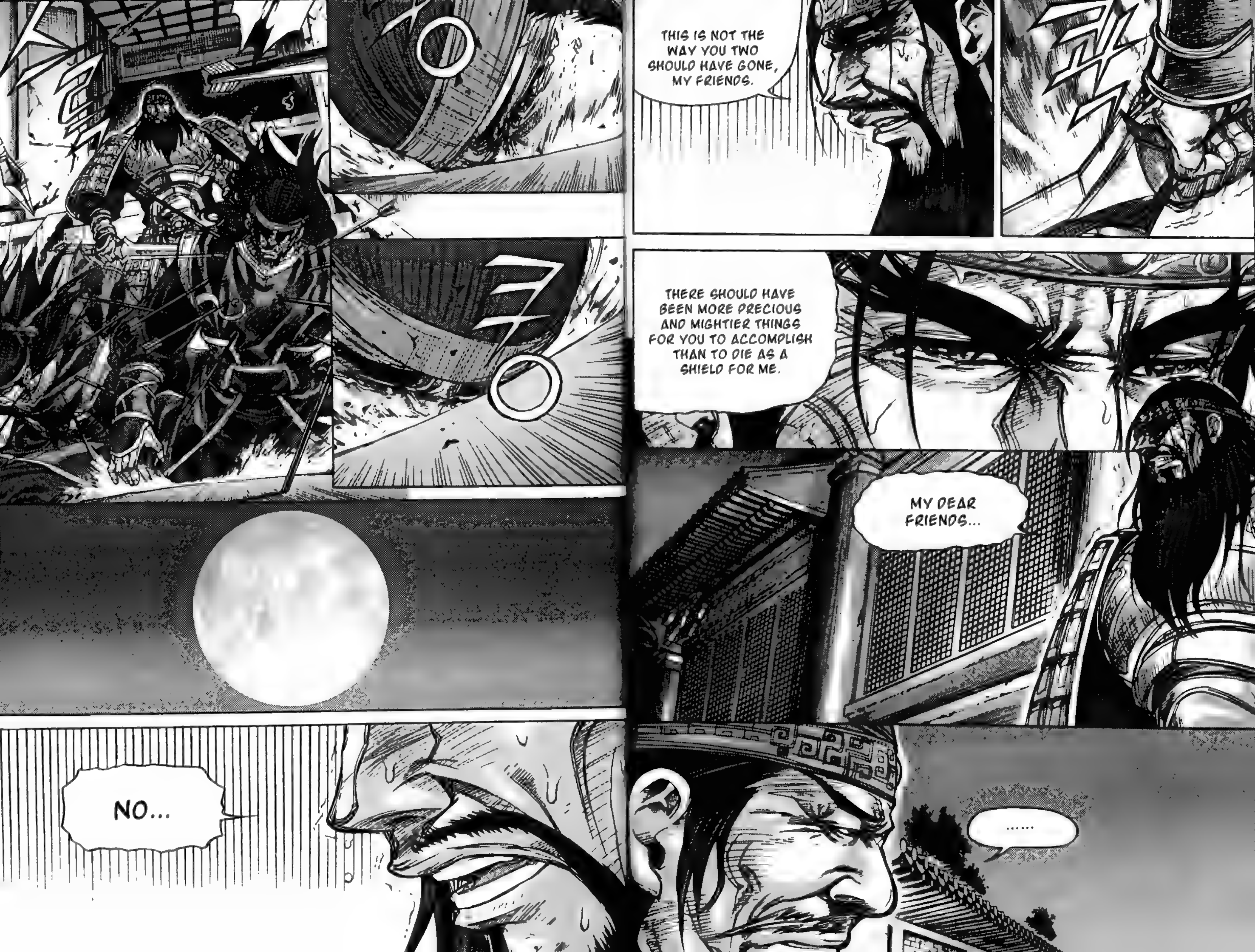

KING HELL

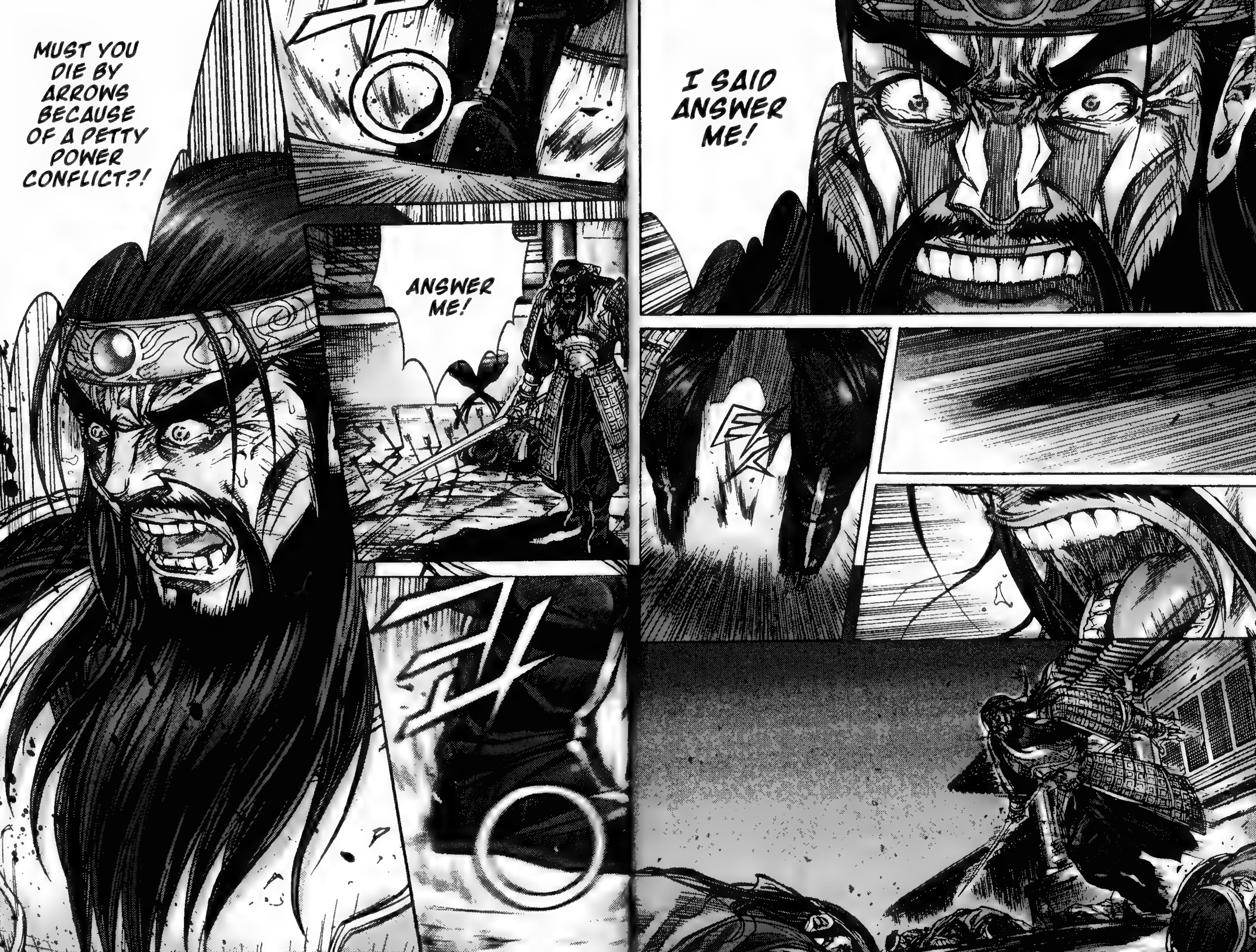

KUAAAAAAA!!
HAA!
착

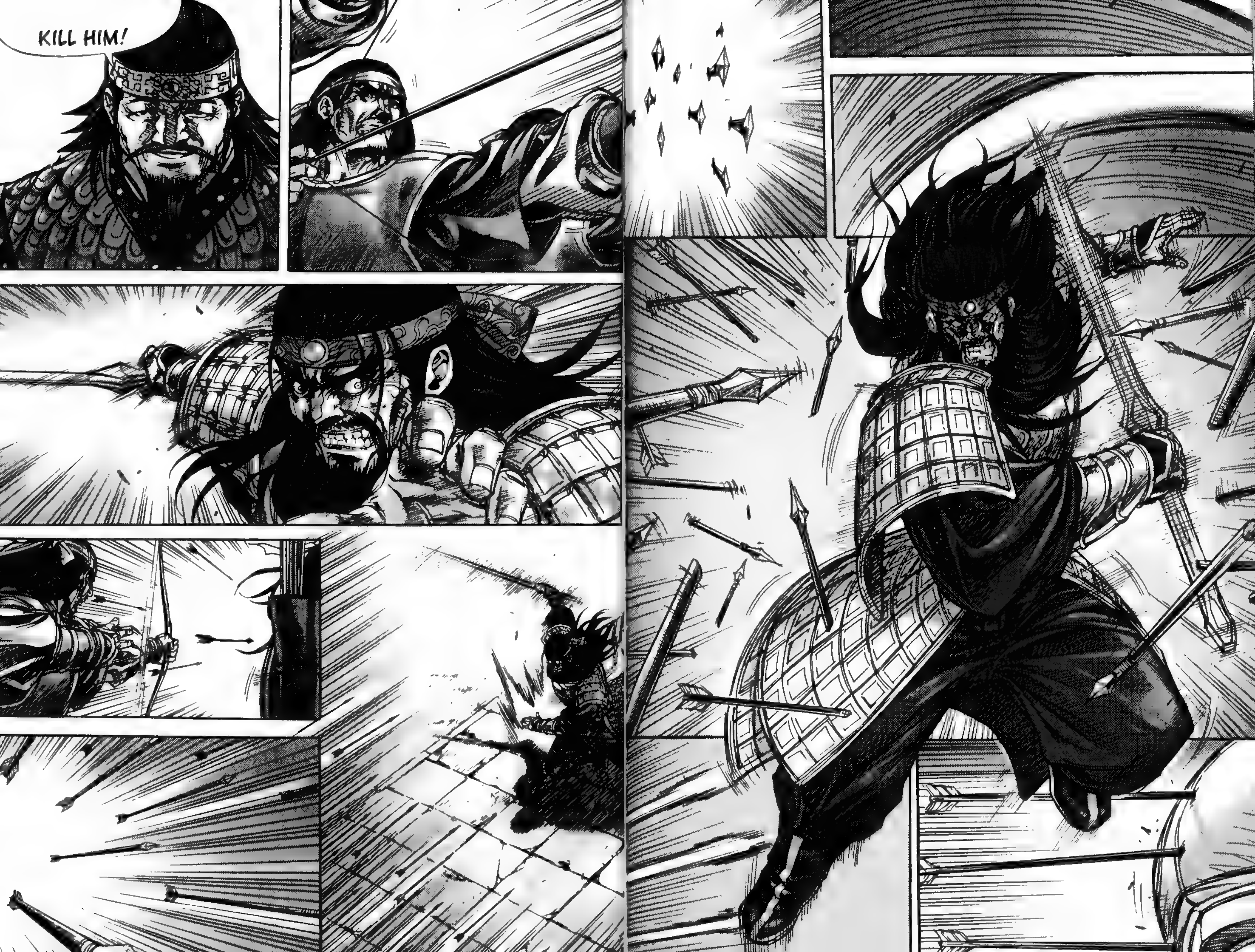

KHUK!!
STAND BACK!
...!
...!

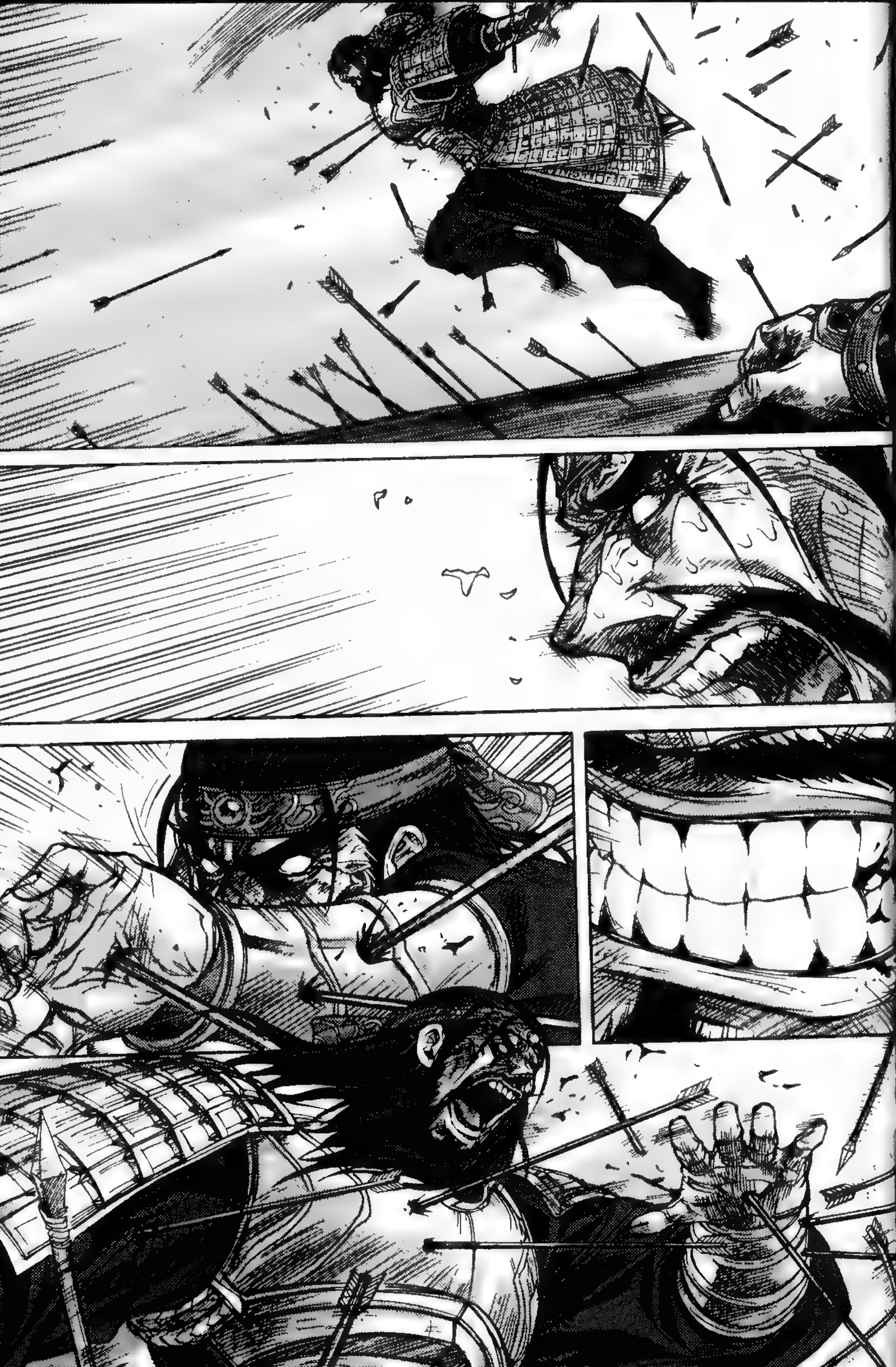

BASTARD...!
FIRE!

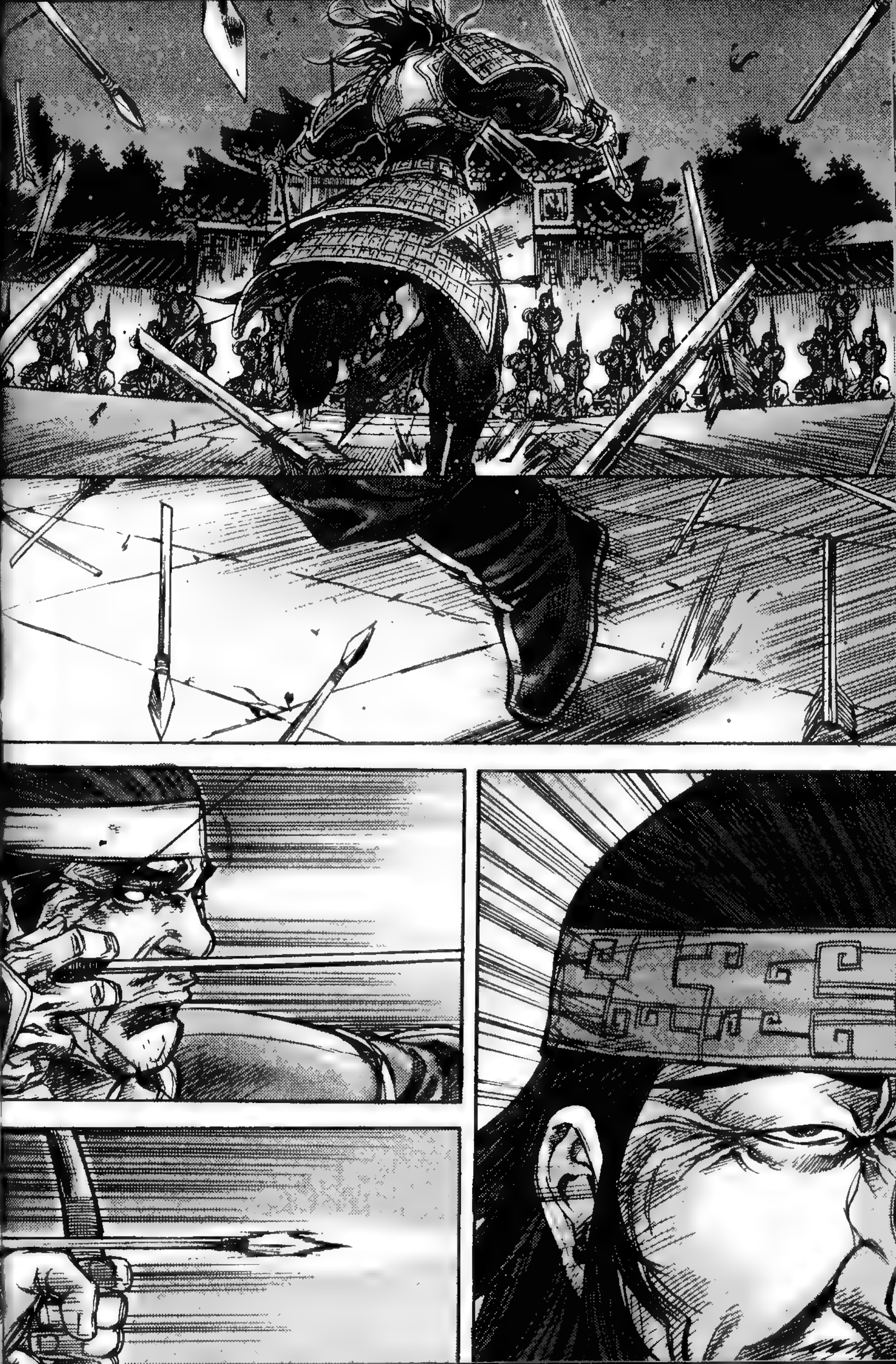

...!
HUH?! NO!
쿨럭
PLEASE FORGIVE...US... FOR GOING... BEFORE YOU.
I'M... I'M SORRY, SIR!
컥
박

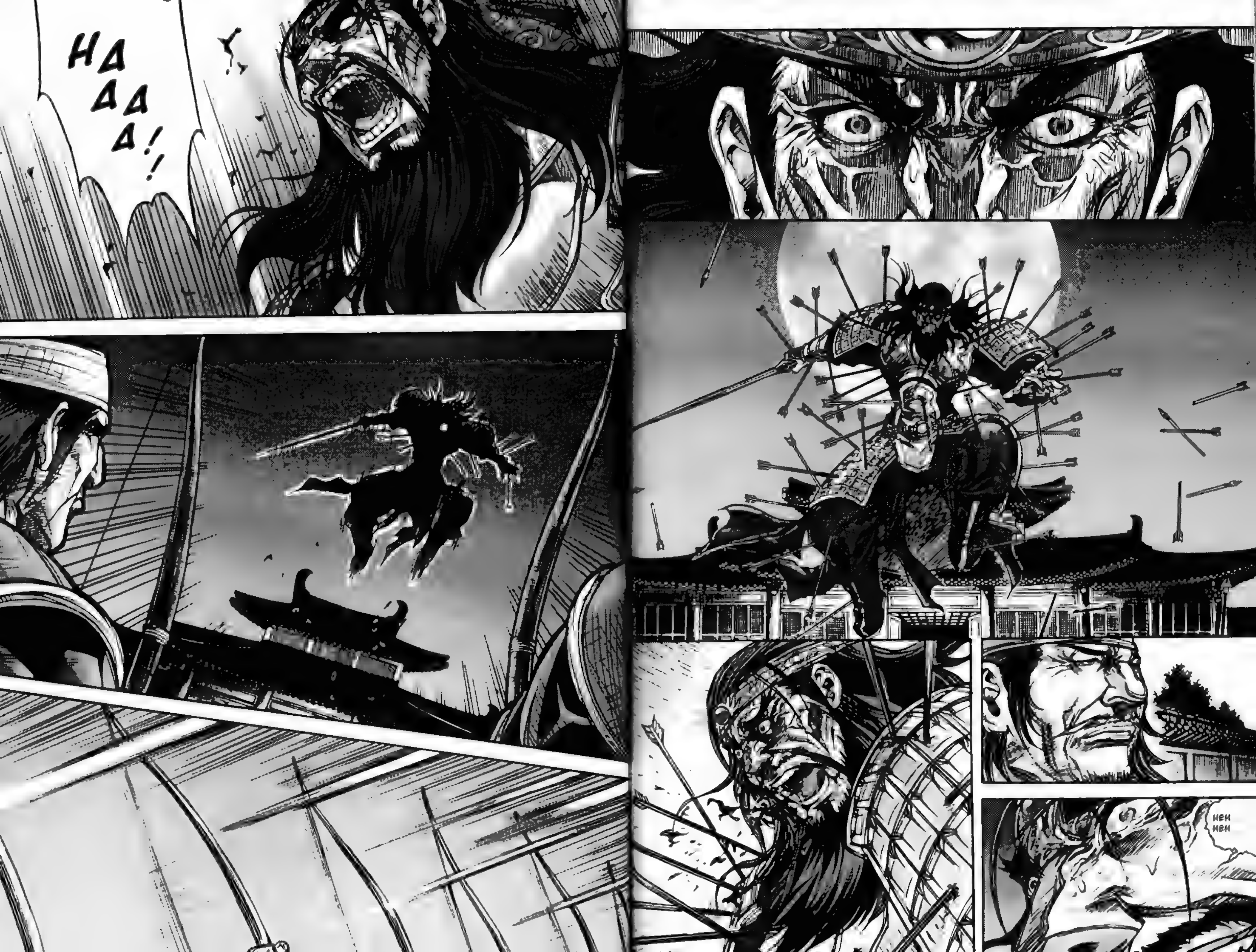

NO...
THIS IS NOT THE WAY YOU TWO SHOULD HAVE GONE, MY FRIENDS.
THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE PRECIOUS AND MIGHTIER THINGS FOR YOU TO ACCOMPLISH THAN TO DIE AS A SHIELD FOR ME.
MY DEAR FRIENDS...
......

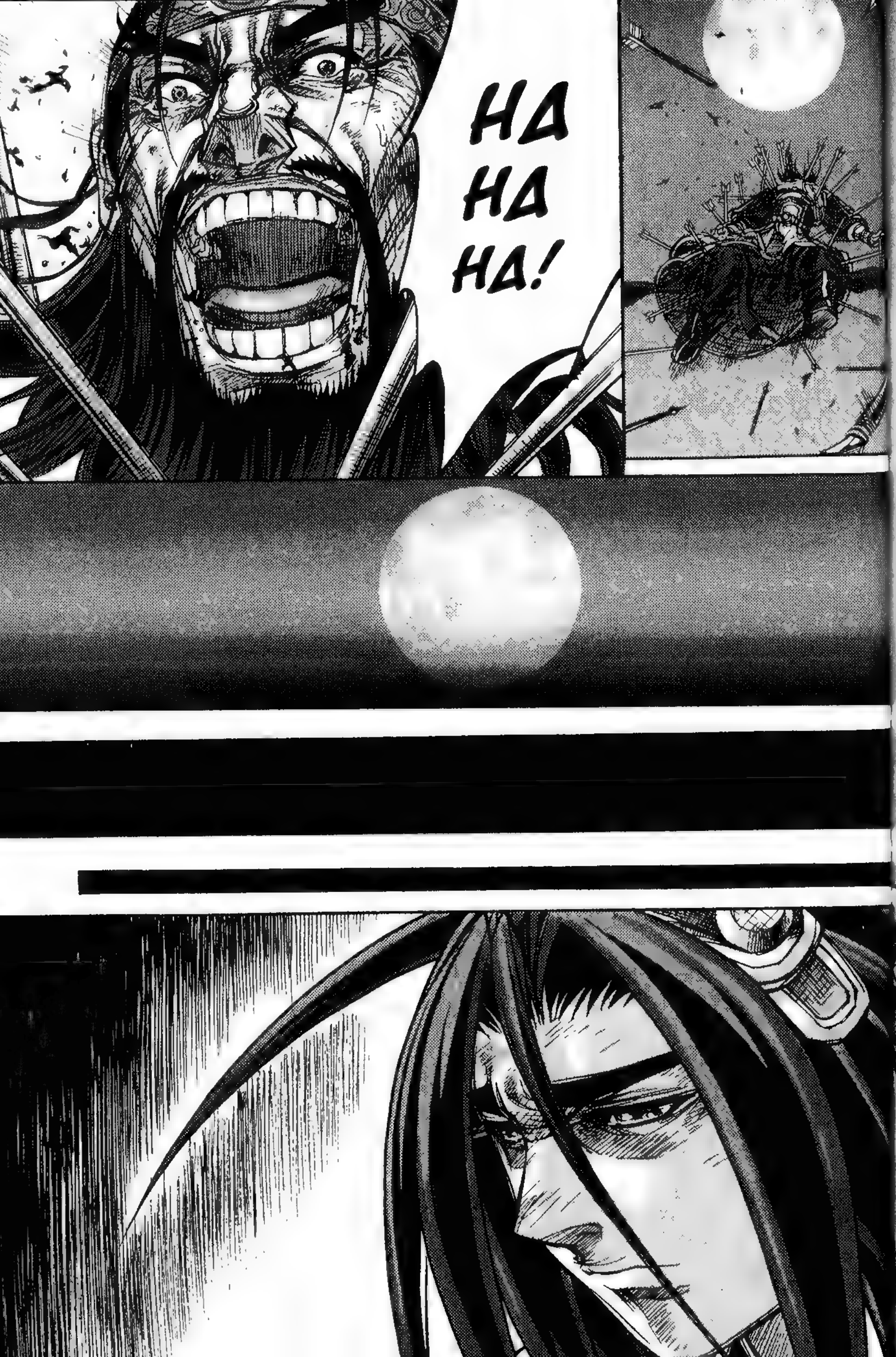

MUST YOU DIE BY ARROWS BECAUSE OF A PETTY POWER CONFLICT?!
ANSWER ME!
I SAID ANSWER ME!

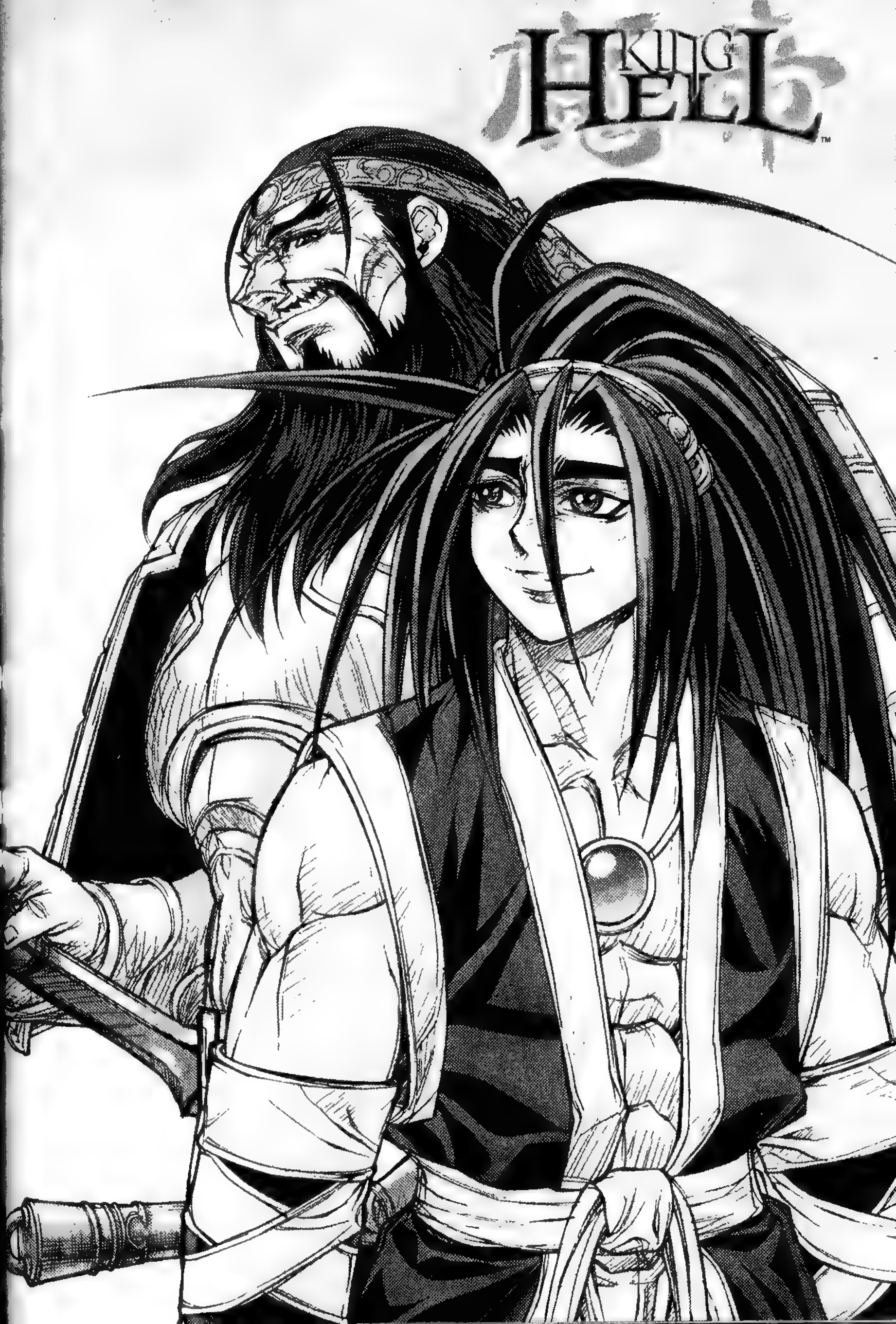

KILL HIM!

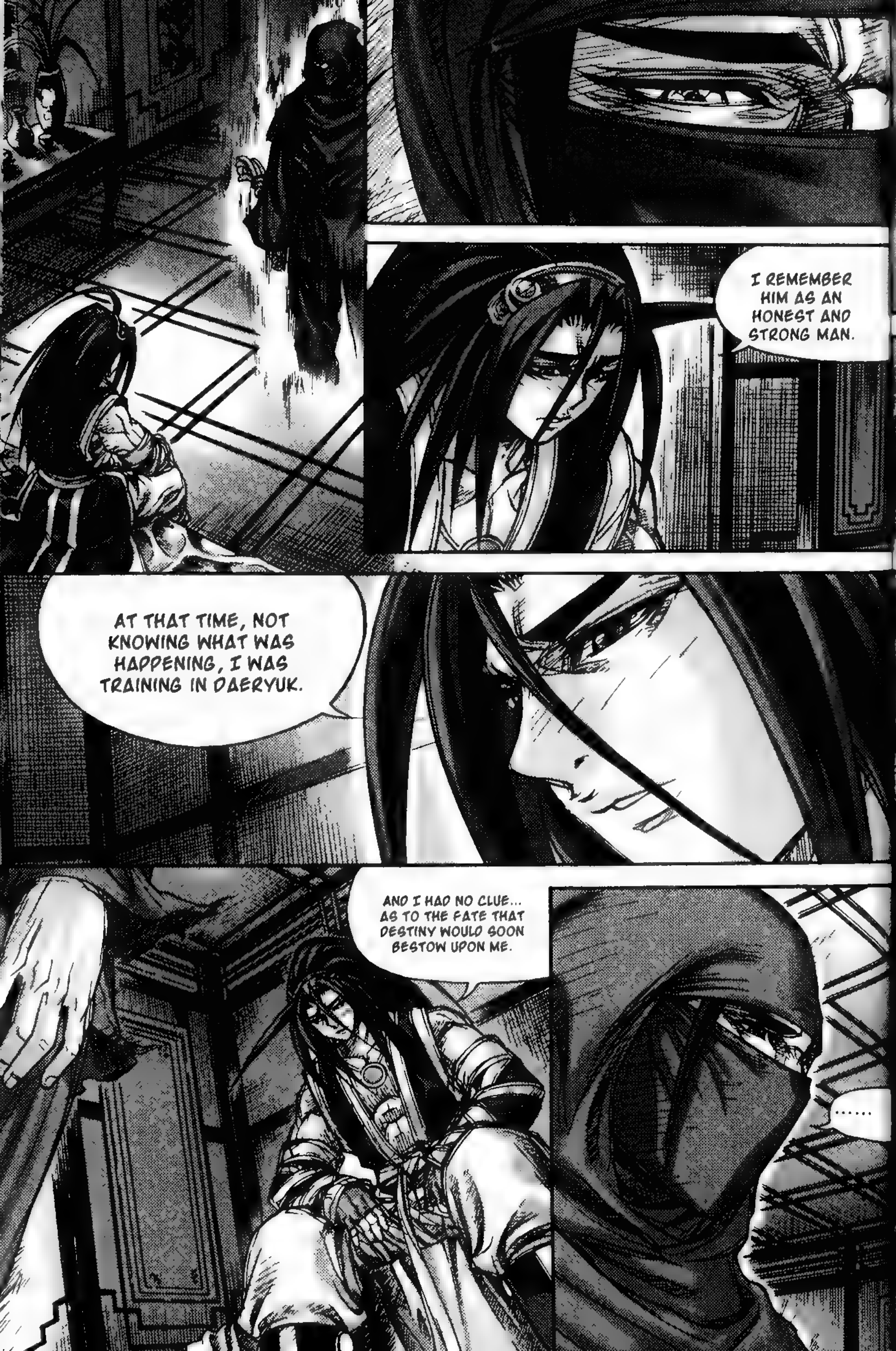


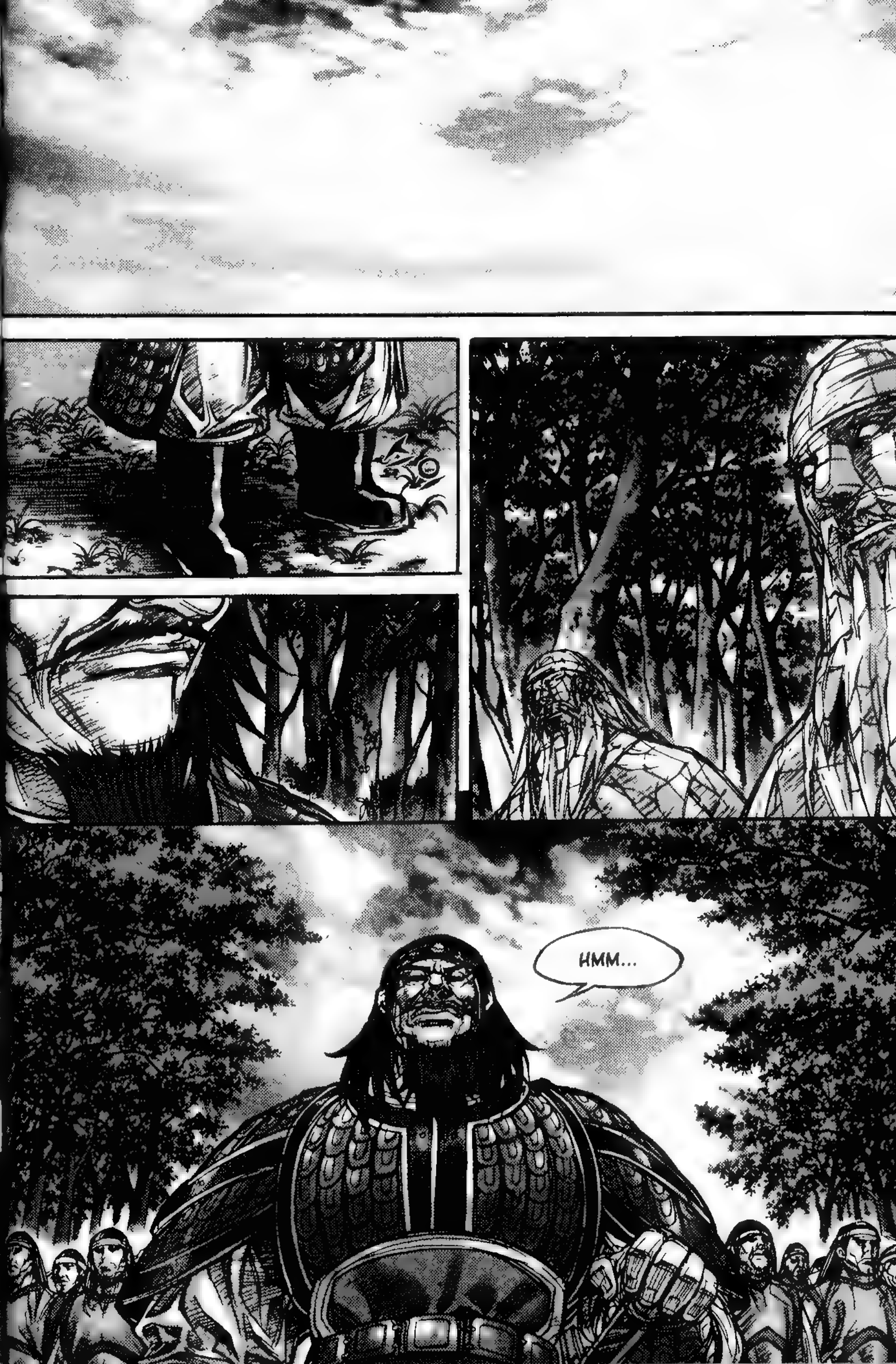


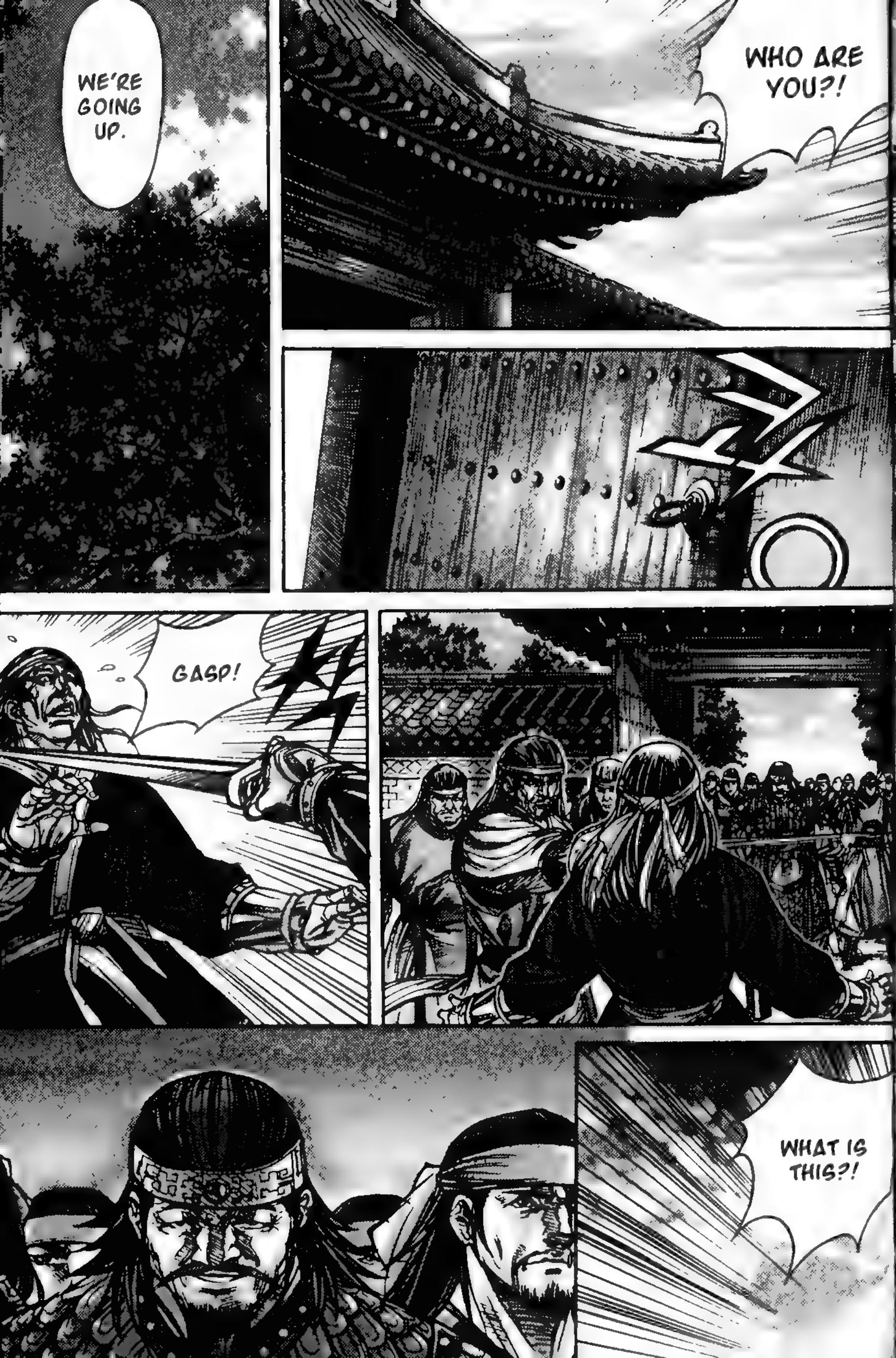

HEH HEH
HAAAAA!!

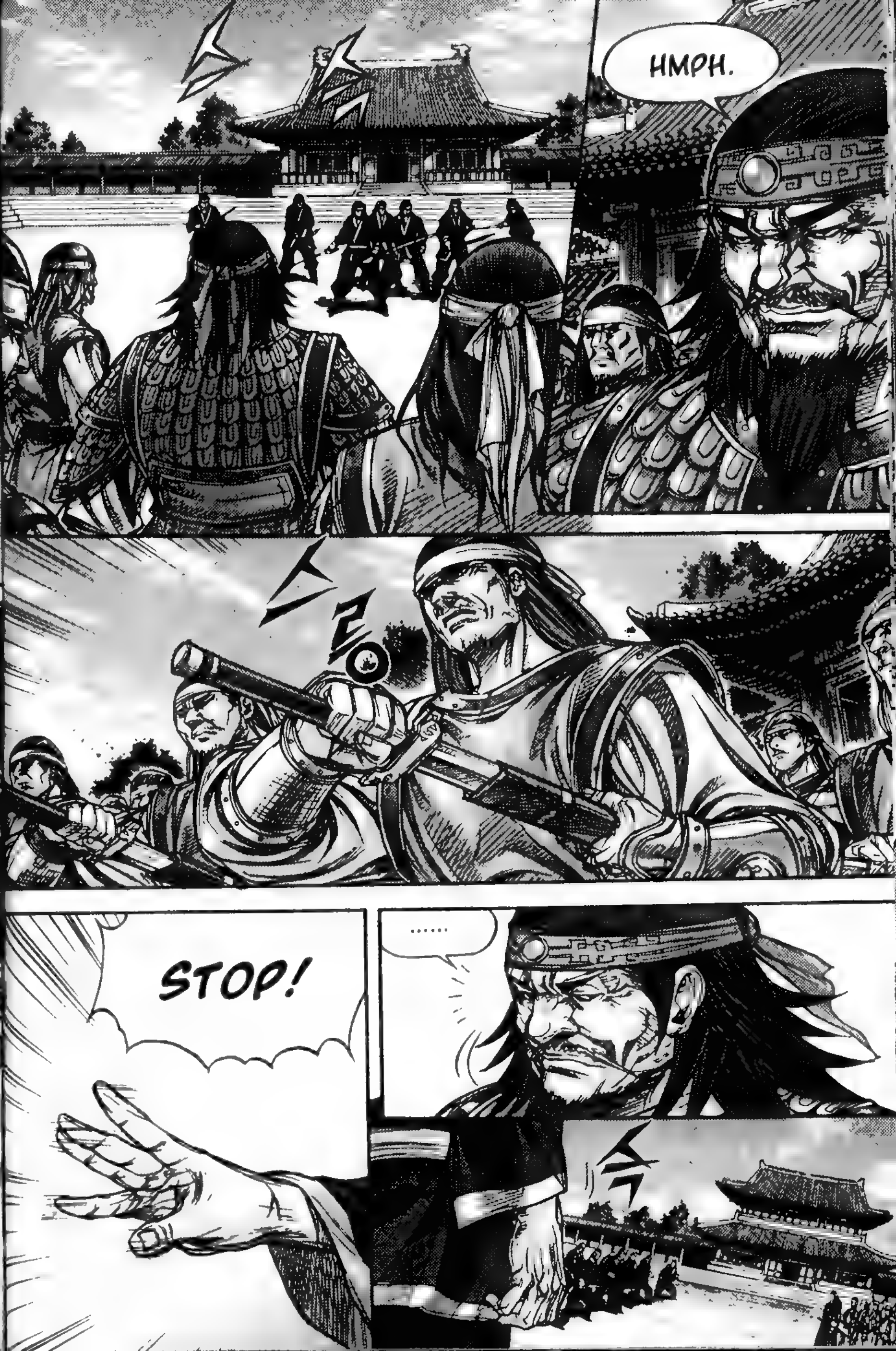

HA HA HA HA!

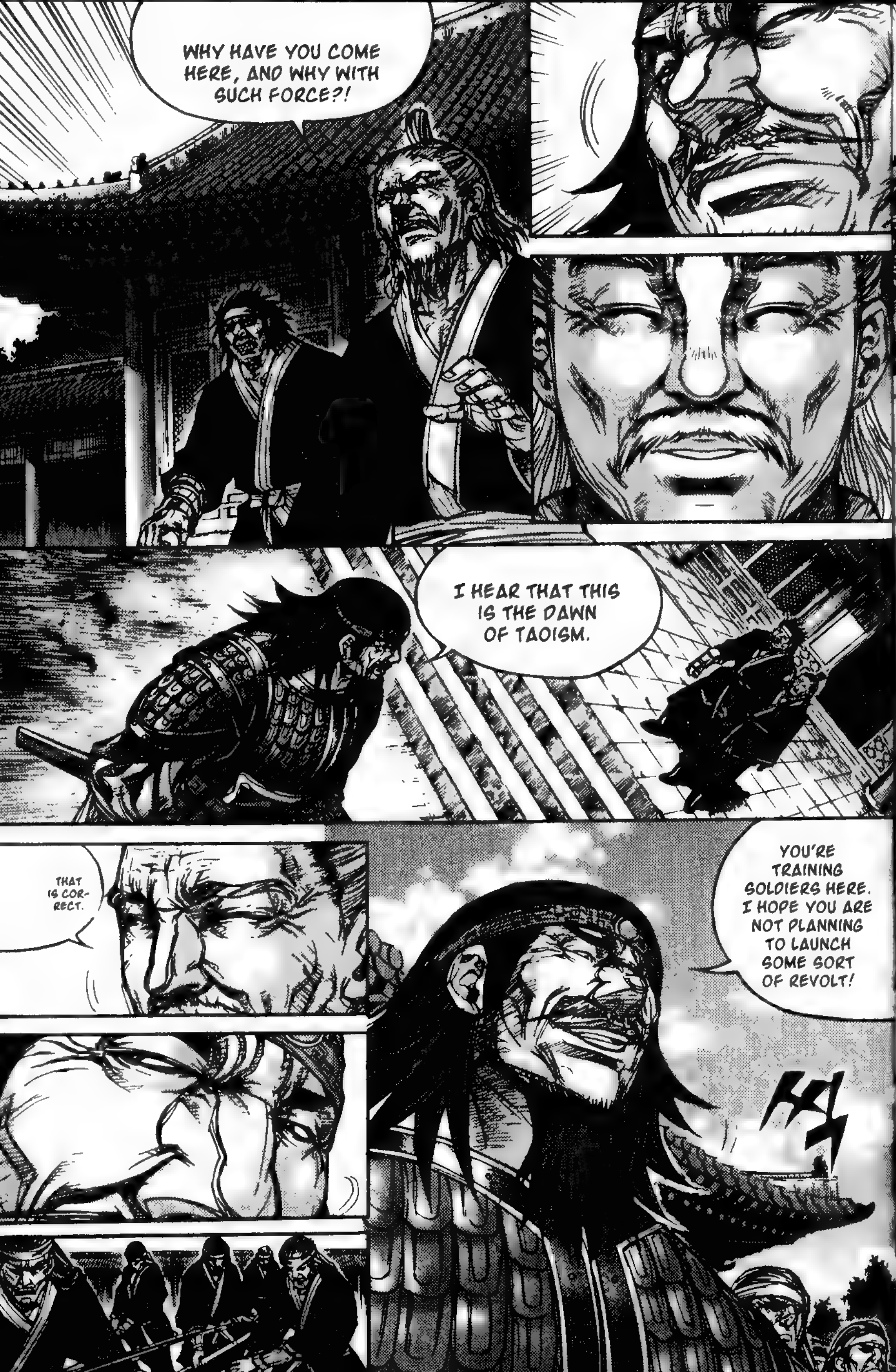

KING HELL

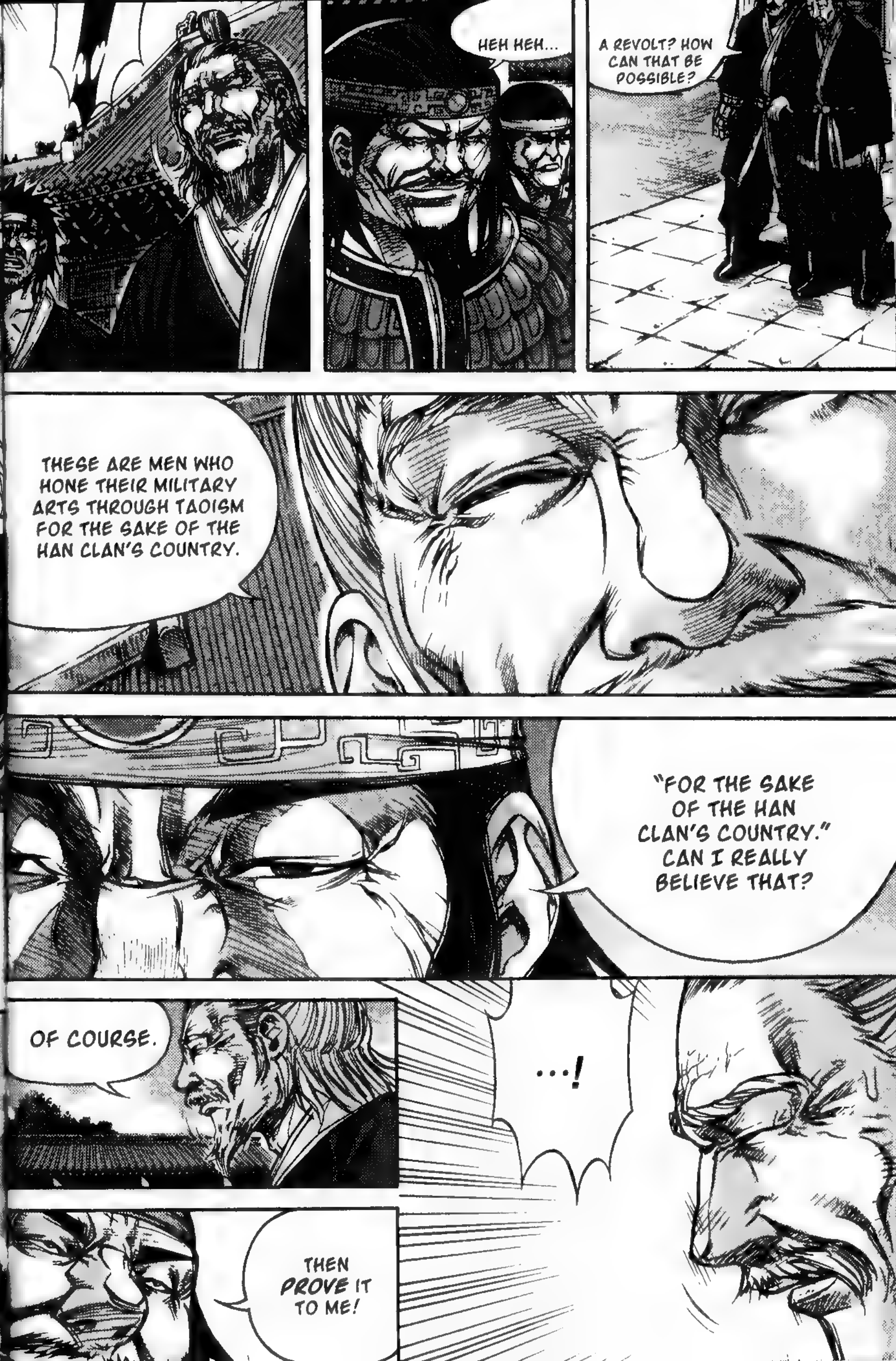

I REMEMBER HIM AS AN HONEST AND STRONG MAN.
AT THAT TIME, NOT KNOWING WHAT WAS HAPPENING, I WAS TRAINING IN DAERYUK.
AND I HAD NO CLUE... AS TO THE FATE THAT DESTINY WOULD SOON BESTOW UPON ME.
......

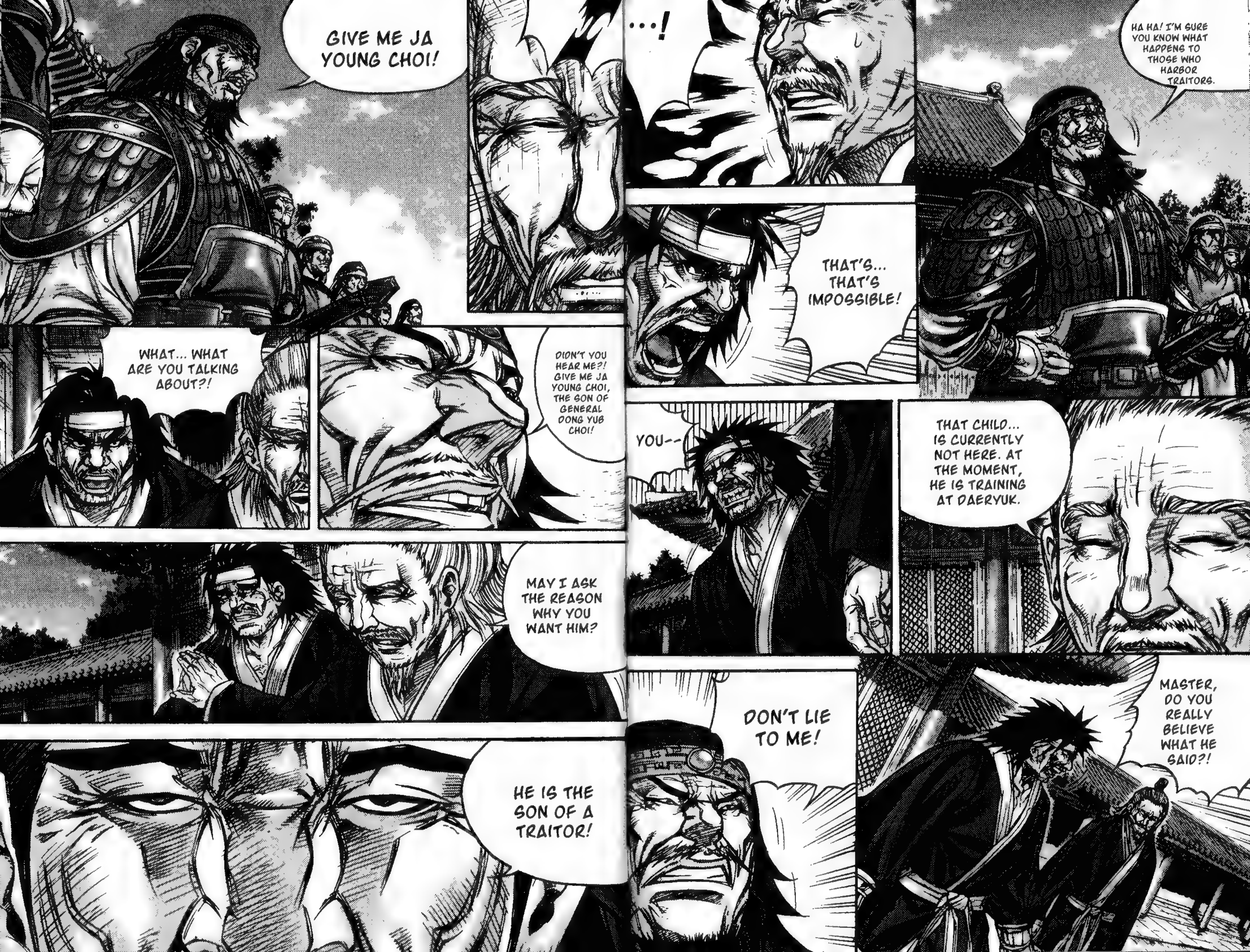

HMM...

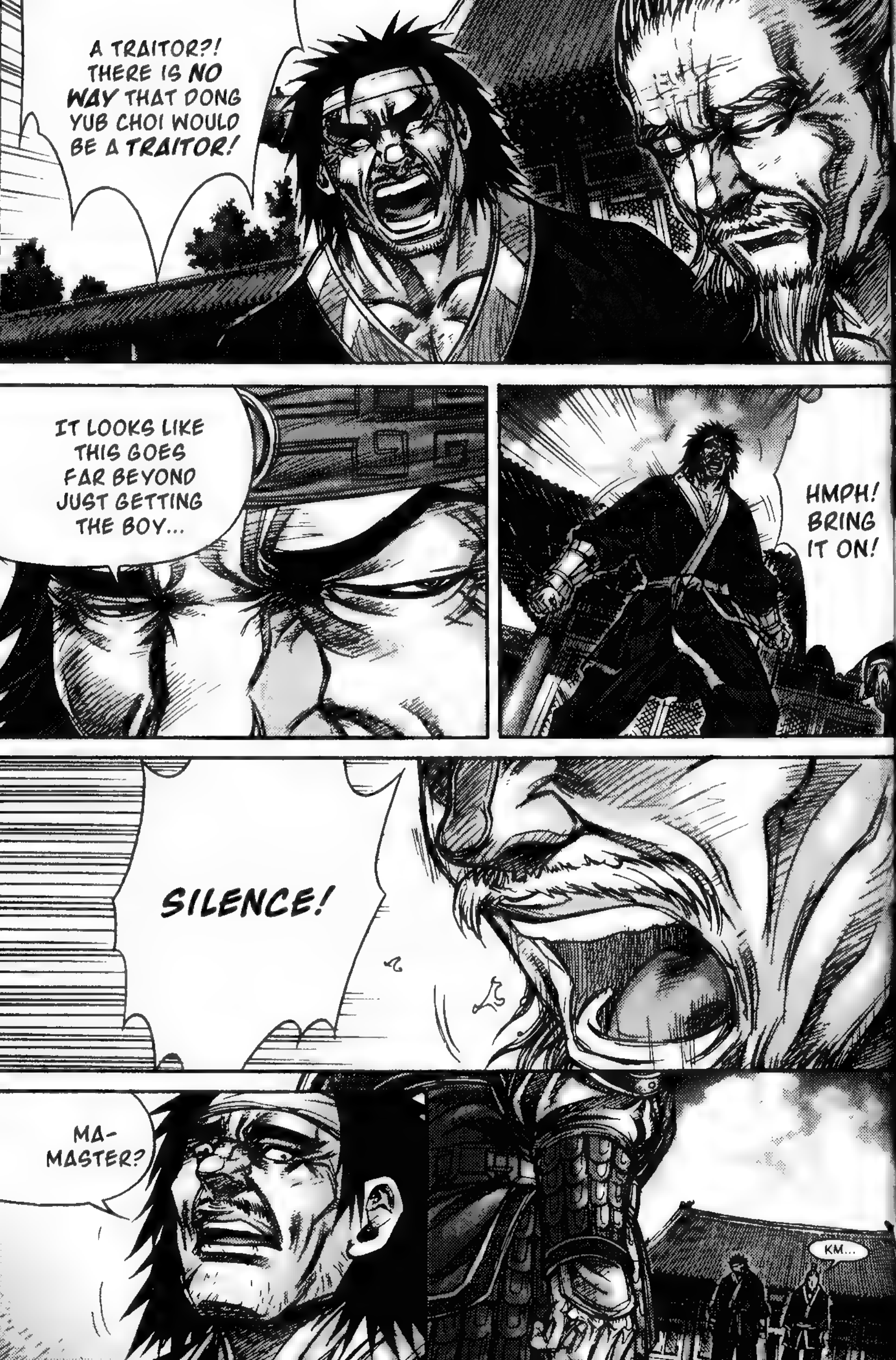

WE'RE GOING UP.
WHO ARE YOU?!
GASP!
WHAT IS THIS?!

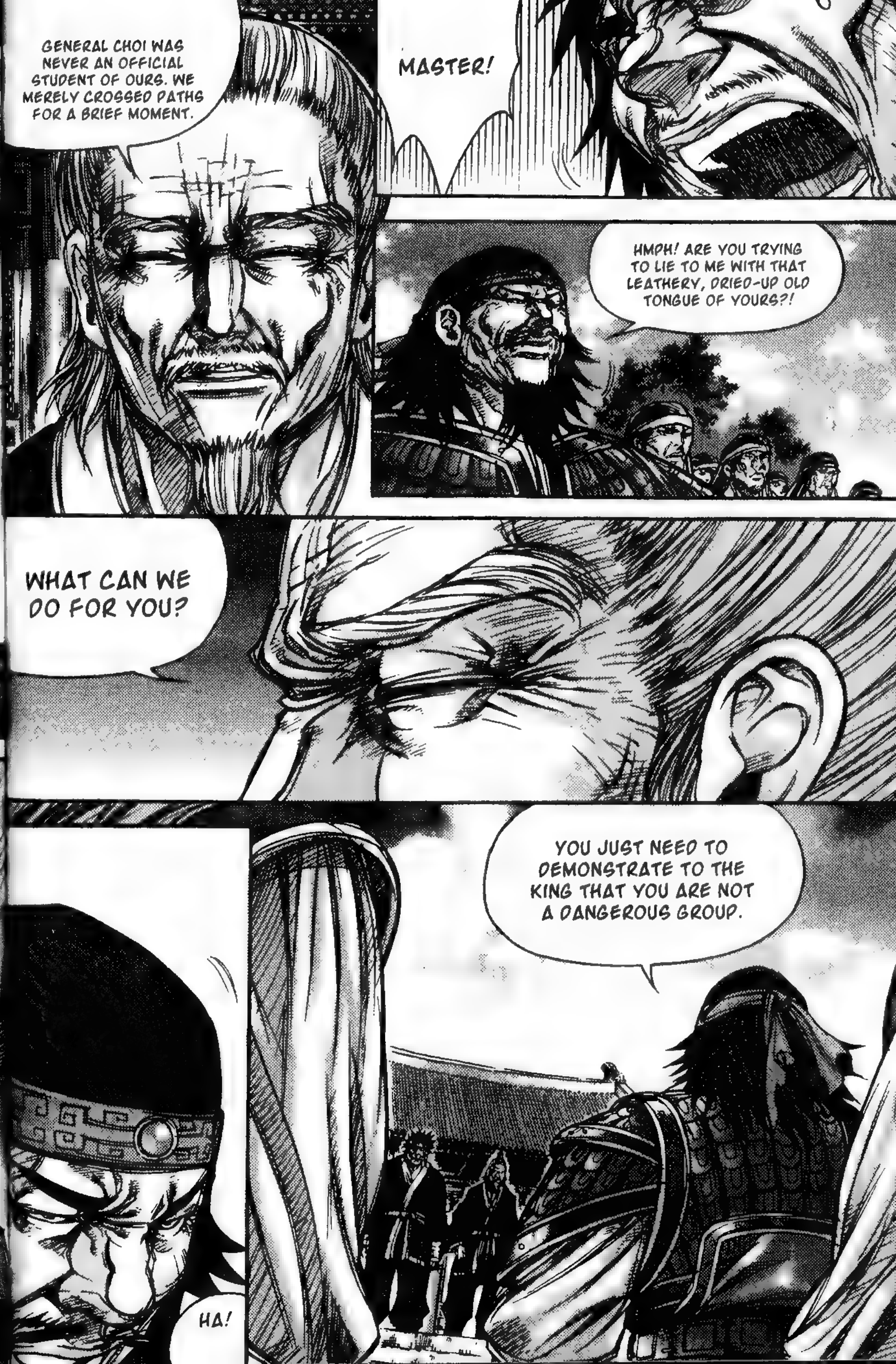

HMPH.
STOP!
......

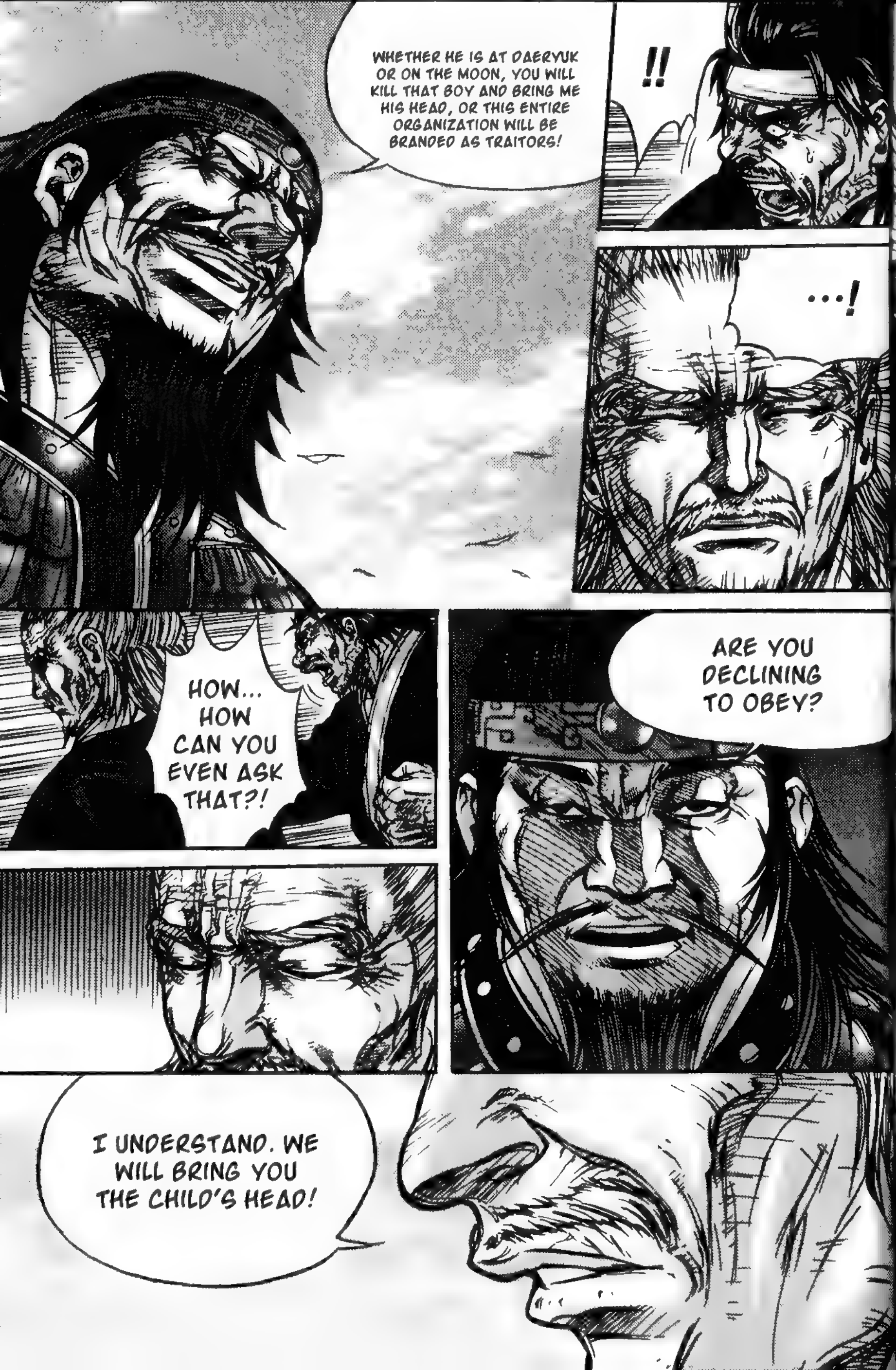

WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE, AND WHY WITH SUCH FORCE?!
I HEAR THAT THIS IS THE DAWN OF TAOISM.
THAT IS CORRECT.
YOU'RE TRAINING SOLDIERS HERE. I HOPE YOU ARE NOT PLANNING TO LAUNCH SOME SORT OF REVOLT!

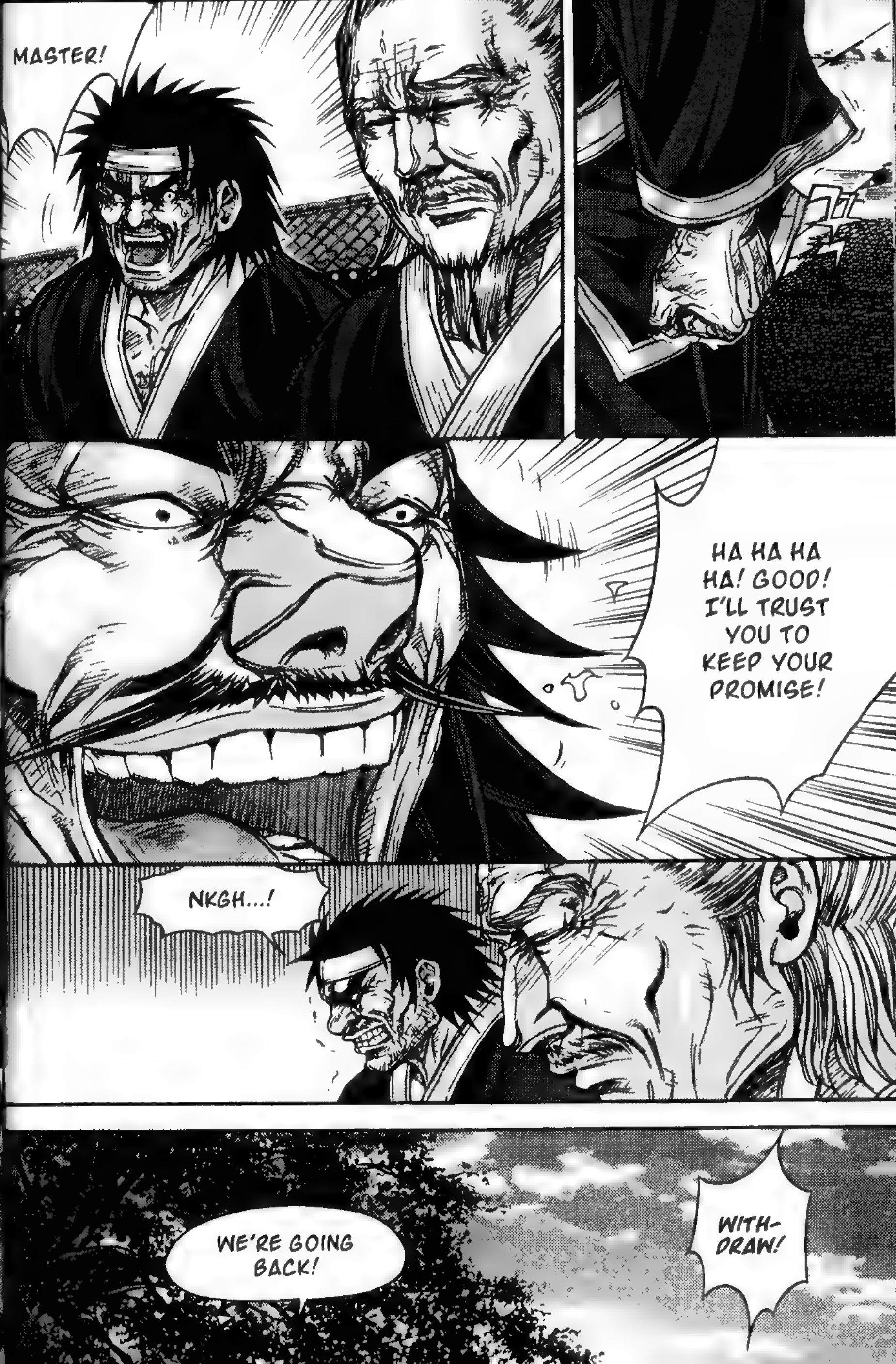

HEH HEH...
A REVOLT? HOW CAN THAT BE POSSIBLE?
THESE ARE MEN WHO HONE THEIR MILITARY ARTS THROUGH TAOISM FOR THE SAKE OF THE HAN CLAN'S COUNTRY.
"FOR THE SAKE OF THE HAN CLAN'S COUNTRY." CAN I REALLY BELIEVE THAT?
OF COURSE.
...!
THEN *PROVE* IT TO ME!

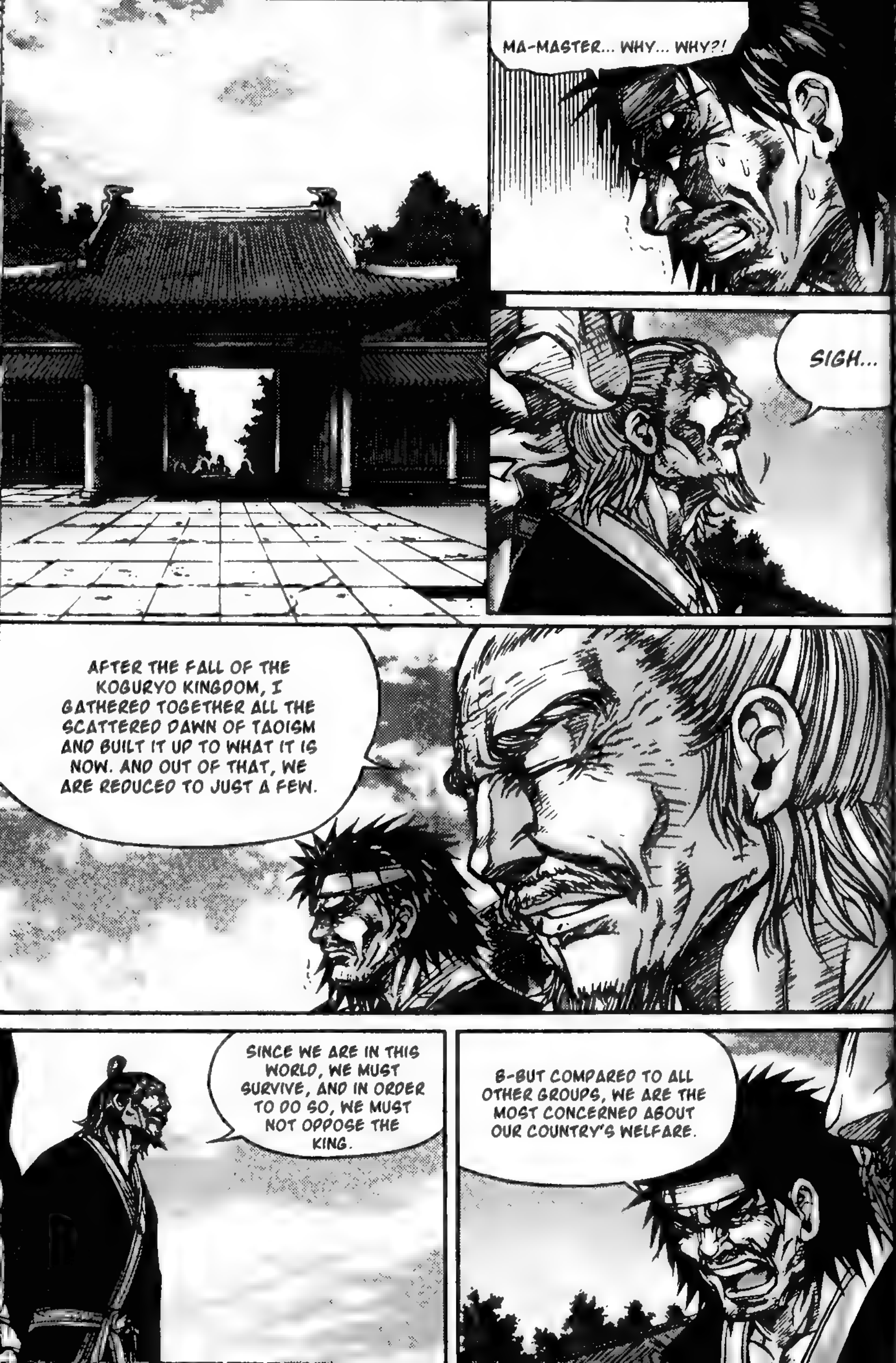

GIVE ME JA YOUNG CHOI!
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?! GIVE ME JA YOUNG CHOI, THE SON OF GENERAL DONG YUB CHOI!
MAY I ASK THE REASON WHY YOU WANT HIM?
HE IS THE SON OF A TRAITOR!
...!
THAT'S... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
HA HA! I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO HARBOR TRAITORS.
YOU--
THAT CHILD... IS CURRENTLY NOT HERE. AT THE MOMENT, HE IS TRAINING AT DAERYUK.
DON'T LIE TO ME!
MASTER, DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE WHAT HE SAID?!

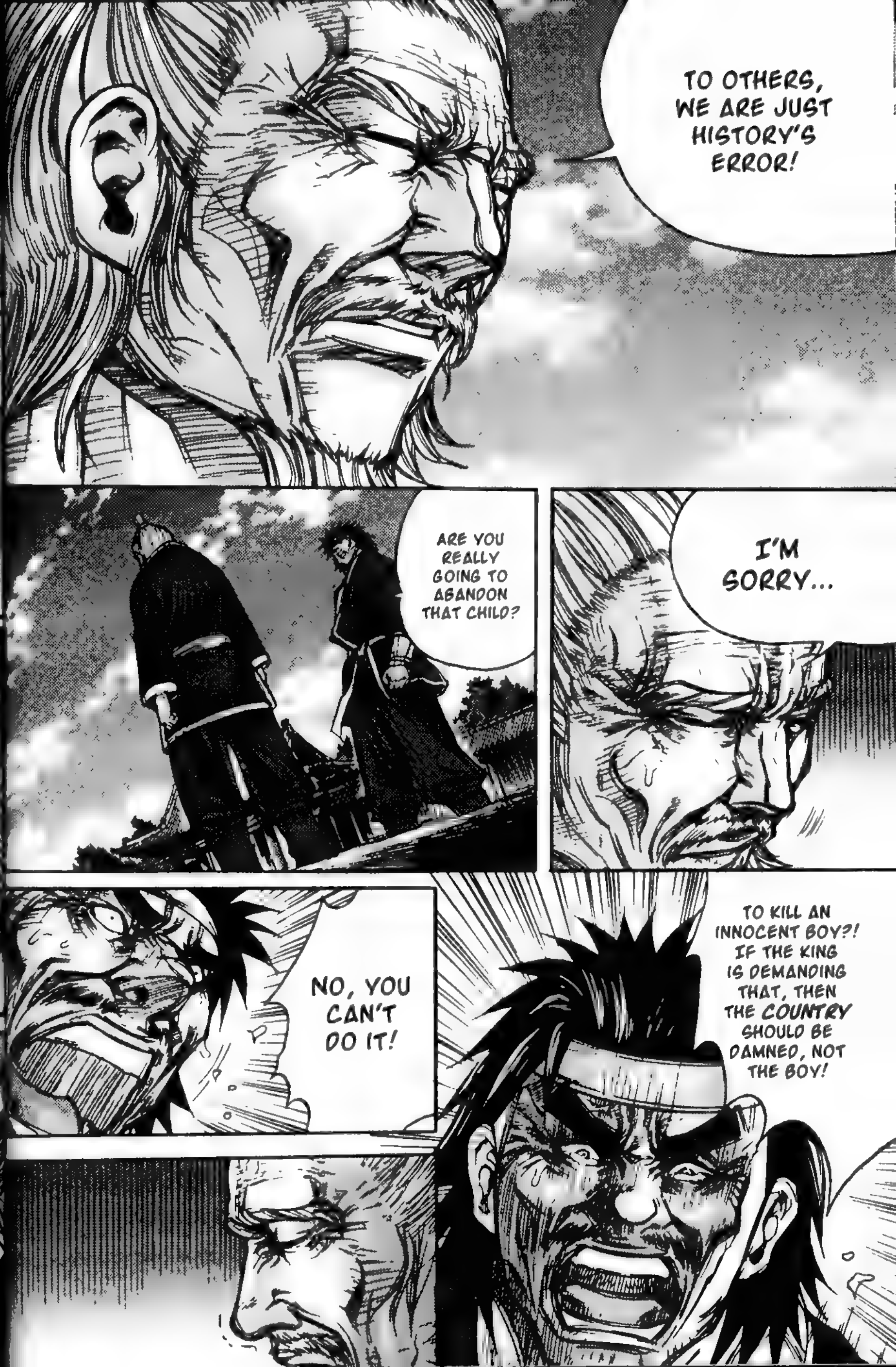

A TRAITOR?! THERE IS **NO WAY** THAT DONG YUB CHOI WOULD BE A **TRAITOR**!
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS GOES FAR BEYOND JUST GETTING THE BOY...
HMPH! BRING IT ON!
SILENCE!
MA-MASTER?
KM...

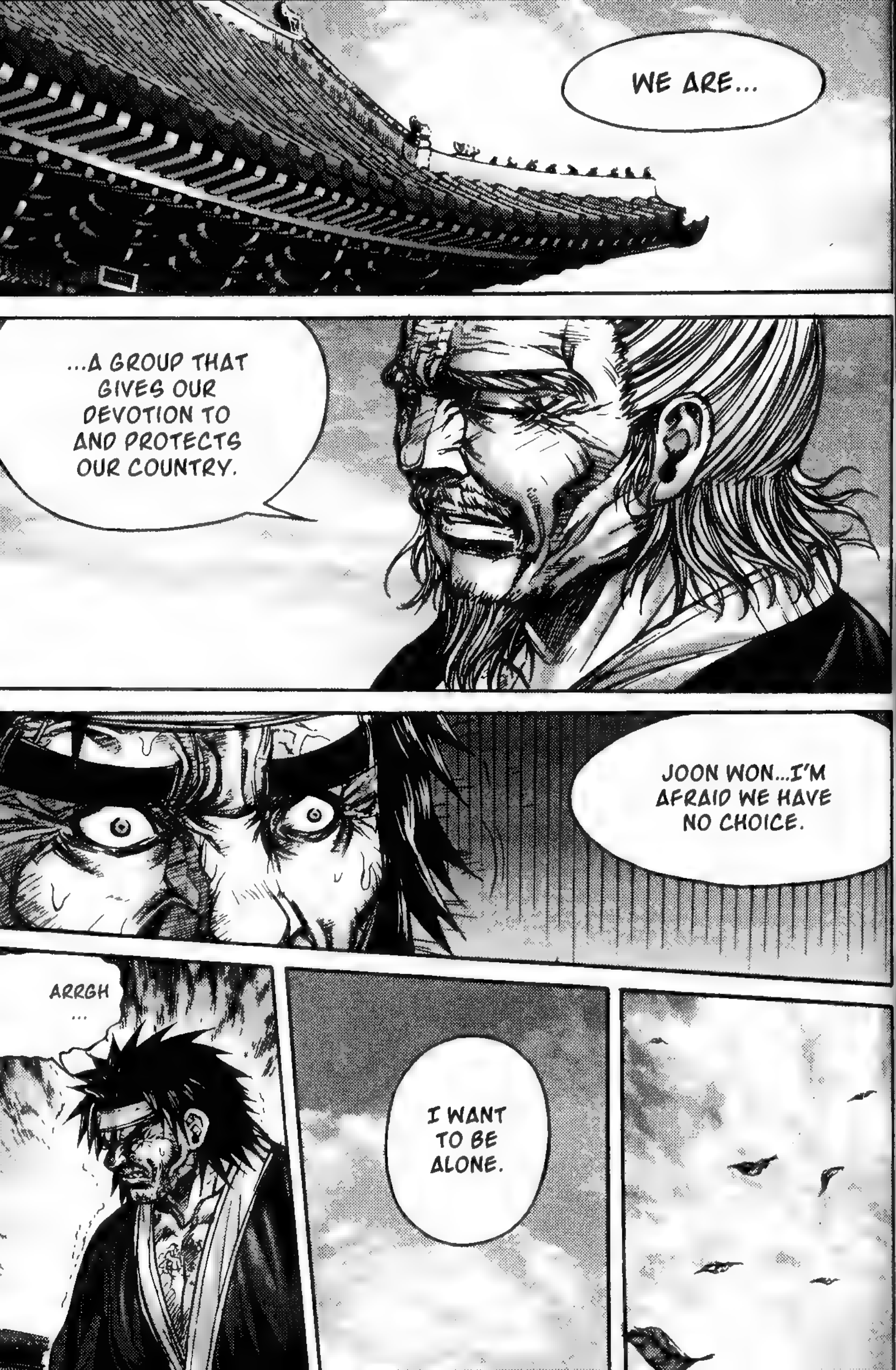

GENERAL CHOI WAS NEVER AN OFFICIAL STUDENT OF OURS. WE MERELY CROSSED PATHS FOR A BRIEF MOMENT.
MASTER!
HMPH! ARE YOU TRYING TO LIE TO ME WITH THAT LEATHERY, DRIED-UP OLD TONGUE OF YOURS?!
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?
HA!
YOU JUST NEED TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE KING THAT YOU ARE NOT A DANGEROUS GROUP.

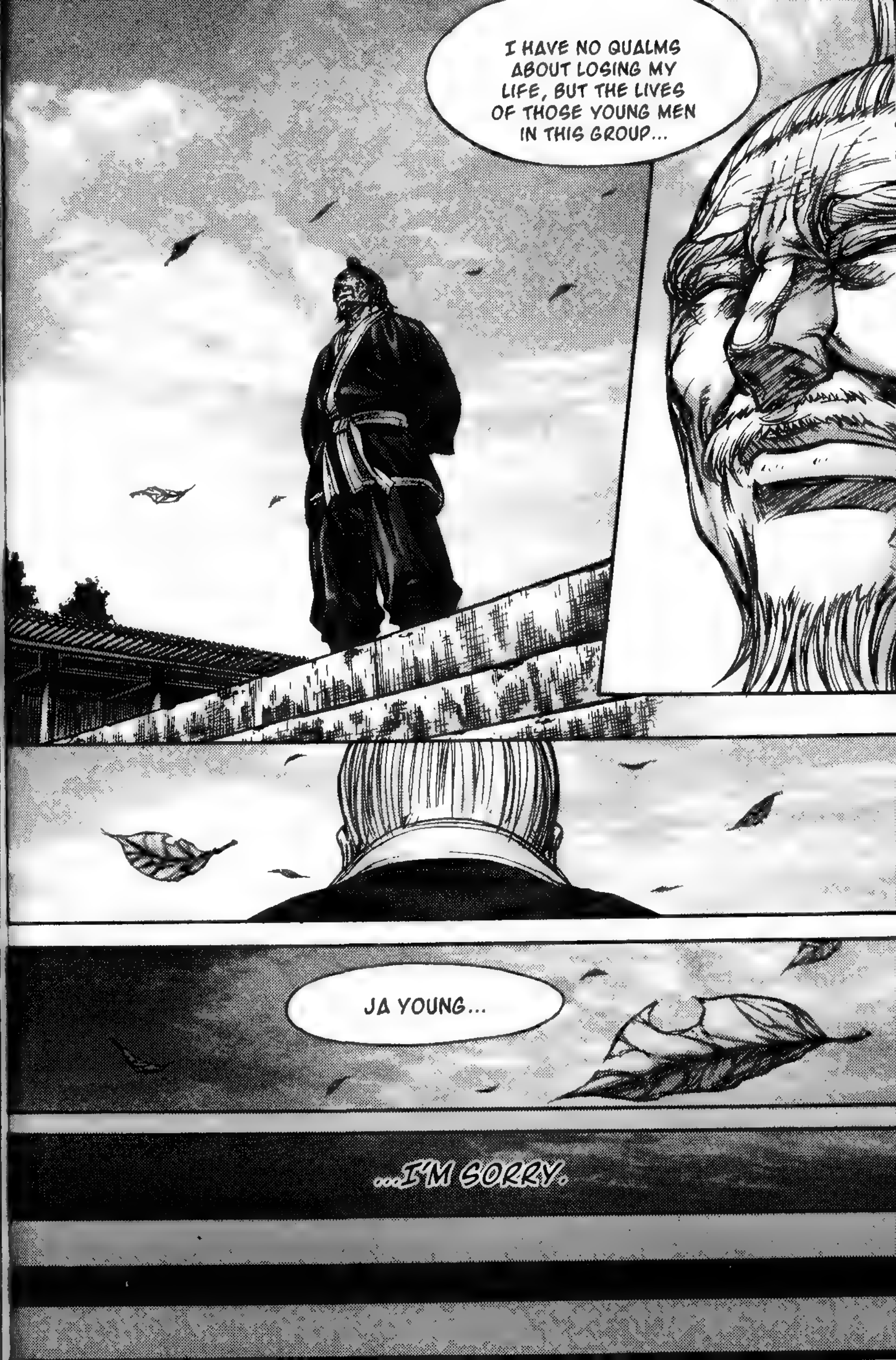

WHETHER HE IS AT DAERYUK OR ON THE MOON, YOU WILL KILL THAT BOY AND BRING ME HIS HEAD, OR THIS ENTIRE ORGANIZATION WILL BE BRANDED AS TRAITORS!
!!
...!
HOW... HOW CAN YOU EVEN ASK THAT?!
ARE YOU DECLINING TO OBEY?
I UNDERSTAND. WE WILL BRING YOU THE CHILD'S HEAD!

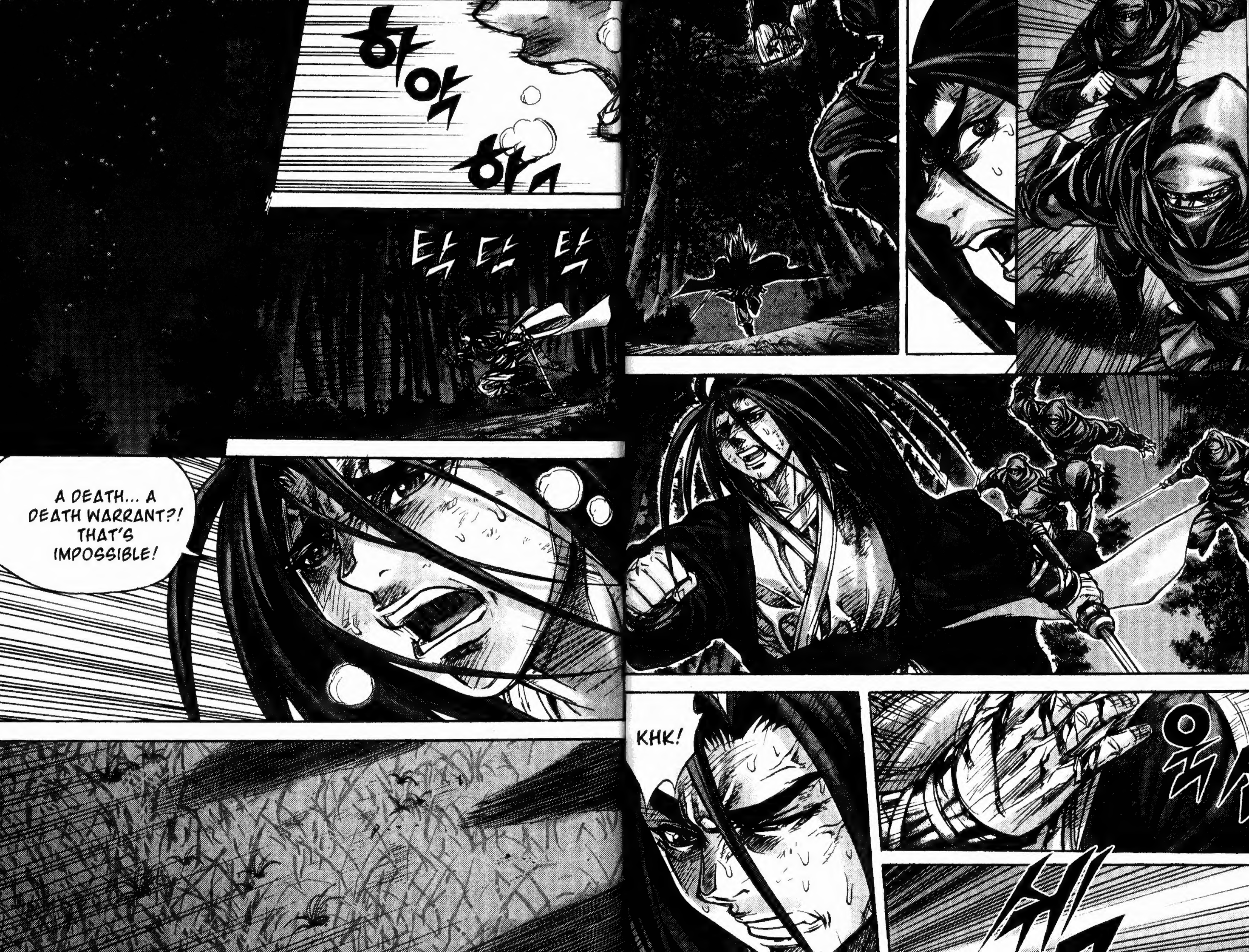

MASTER!
HA HA HA HA! GOOD! I'LL TRUST YOU TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE!
NKGH...!
WE'RE GOING BACK!
WITH-DRAW!


MA-MASTER... WHY... WHY?!
SIGH...
AFTER THE FALL OF THE KOGURYO KINGDOM, I GATHERED TOGETHER ALL THE SCATTERED DAWN OF TAOISM AND BUILT IT UP TO WHAT IT IS NOW. AND OUT OF THAT, WE ARE REDUCED TO JUST A FEW.
SINCE WE ARE IN THIS WORLD, WE MUST SURVIVE, AND IN ORDER TO DO SO, WE MUST NOT OPPOSE THE KING.
B-BUT COMPARED TO ALL OTHER GROUPS, WE ARE THE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT OUR COUNTRY'S WELFARE.


TO OTHERS, WE ARE JUST HISTORY'S ERROR!
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO ABANDON THAT CHILD?
I'M SORRY...
NO, YOU CAN'T DO IT!
TO KILL AN INNOCENT BOY?! IF THE KING IS DEMANDING THAT, THEN THE COUNTRY SHOULD BE DAMNED, NOT THE BOY!


WE ARE...
...A GROUP THAT GIVES OUR DEVOTION TO AND PROTECTS OUR COUNTRY.
JOON WON...I'M AFRAID WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
ARRGH ...
I WANT TO BE ALONE.


I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT LOSING MY LIFE, BUT THE LIVES OF THOSE YOUNG MEN IN THIS GROUP...
JA YOUNG...
...I'M SORRY.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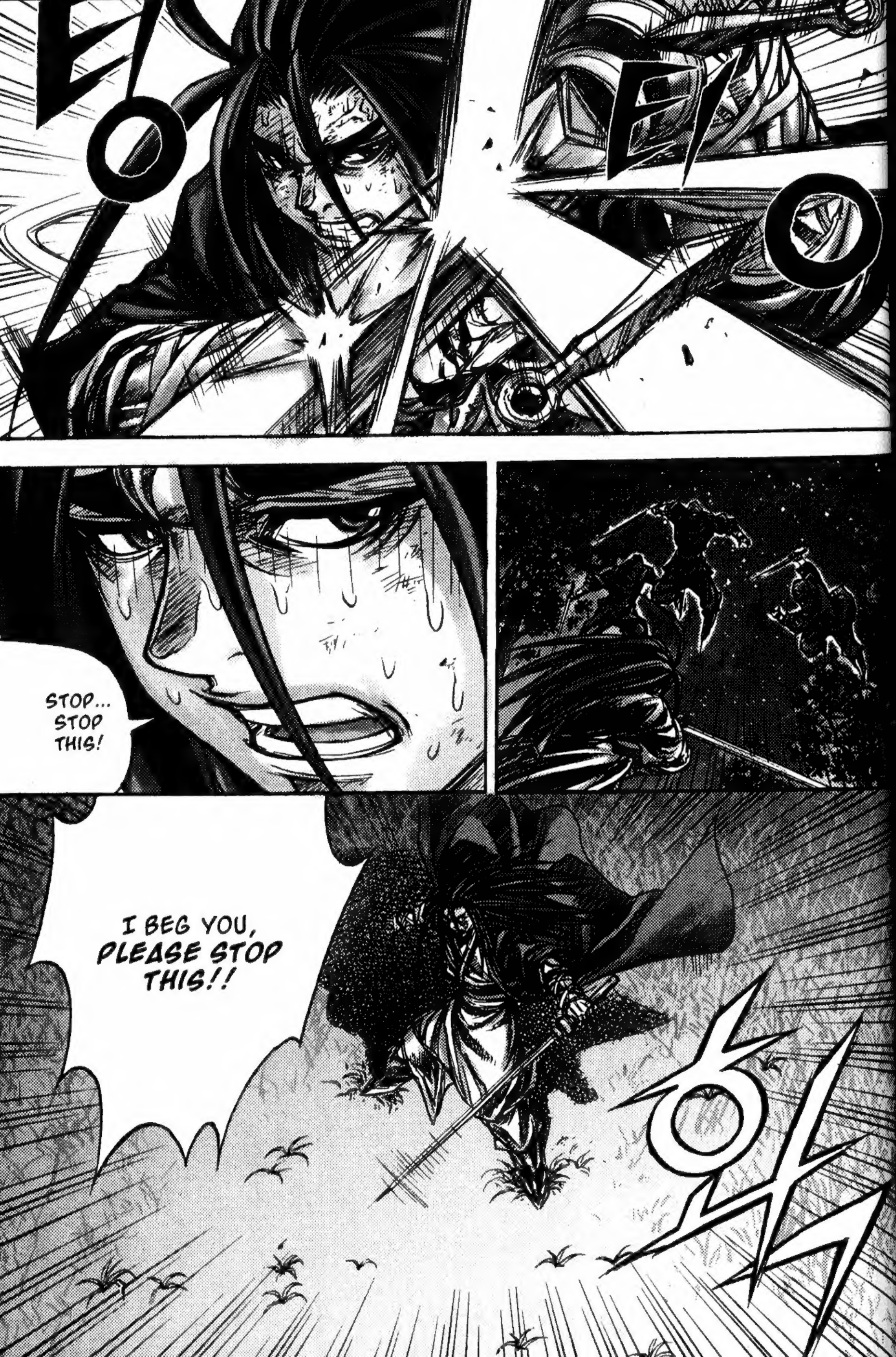
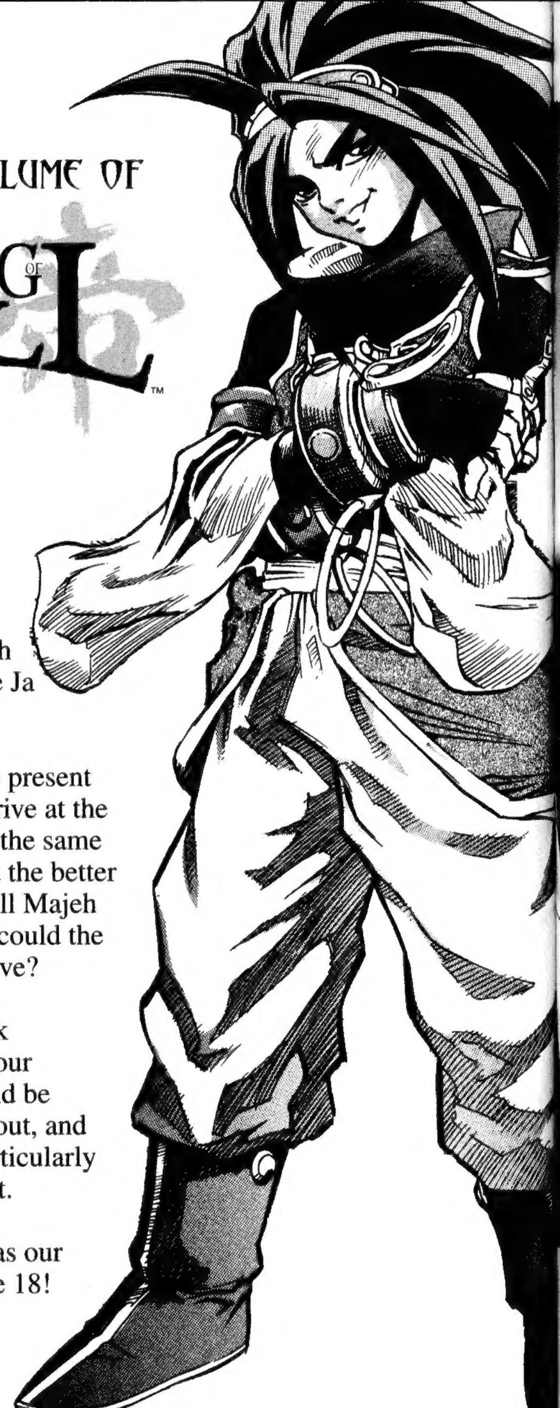
A DEATH... A DEATH WARRANT?! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
KHK!
윽


STOP... STOP THIS!
I BEG YOU, PLEASE STOP THIS!!

TO BE CONTINUED

IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF

KING OF HELL™



We learn more of Majeh's history as the shocking peek into his past concludes. Will the Master of the Dawn of Taoism carry through with his shocking order to take Ja Young Choi's life?

After that, it's back to the present as Majeh and his team arrive at the Gobi Desert and run into the same band of brigands who got the better of the Insane Hounds. Will Majeh meet the same fate? And could the Insane Hounds still be alive?

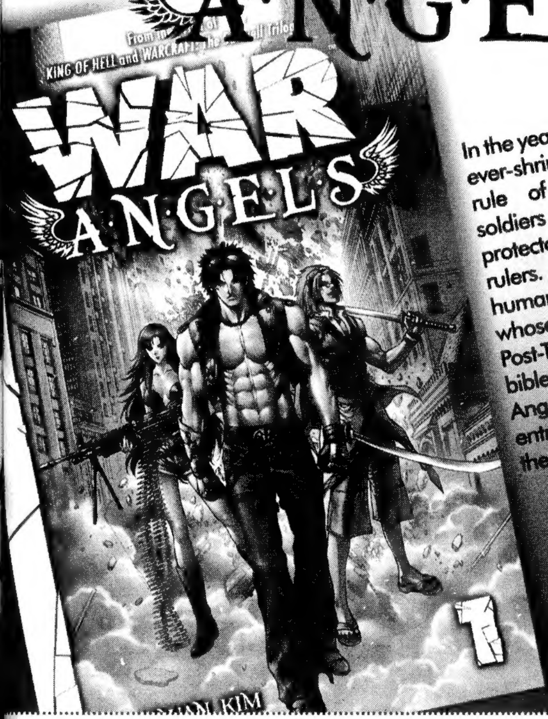
The search for the Sa Gok Headquarters rolls on as our heroes uncover what could be the entrance to their hideout, and Chung Poong fights a particularly "hard" opponent to defeat.

It's non-stop excitement as our story continues in volume 18!

FROM JAE-HWAN KIM, THE ARTIST OF THE BESTSELLING WARCRAFT MANGA TRILOGY AND *KING OF HELL*

THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS IN THE ARMS OF THE

WAR™ ANGELS


KING OF HELL and WARCRAFT
WAR
ANGELS
1

In the year 2504, humankind is an ever-shrinking minority under the rule of animal-human hybrid soldiers who were meant to be protectors, but instead became rulers. Doomed to extinction, humanity's one hope is the savior whose birth is foretold by the Post-Testament (a post-apocalyptic bible). This is the story of the War Angels: the powerful people entrusted to protect the mother of the unborn messiah!

OT OLDER TEEN AGE 16+

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